

CROSS-CUTTING ISSUES

PROGRESS REPORT 2018



CROSS-CUTTING ISSUES



Progress Report

2018

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*A better quality
of life in an
urbanizing world.*



Maimunah Mohd Sharif
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ACRONYMS

AGGI	Advisory Group of Gender Issues	PAG	Project Advisory Group
CCAC	Climate and Clean Air Coalition	PIACB	The Partners and Inter-Agency Coordination Branch
CCM	Climate Change Marker	PSUP	Participatory Slum Upgrading Programme
CECSR	Committee on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights	RBM	Results-based Management
CEDAW	Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women	ROAF	Regional Office for Africa
COP21	Conference of Parties (Paris Conference)	ROAP	Regional Office for Asia and the Pacific
COP22	Conference of Parties (Marrakesh Conference)	ROAS	Regional Office for Arab States
COP23	Conference of Parties (Bonn Conference)	ROLAC	Regional Office for Latin America and the Caribbean
CPI	City Prosperity Index	SDI	Slum Dwellers International
EGM	Expert Group Meeting	SIDA	Swedish International Development Agency
GC	Governing Council	UCLG	United Cities and Local Governments
GDP	Gross Domestic Product	UDHR	Universal Declaration of Human Rights
GEAP	Gender Equality Action Plan	UN SWAP	United Nations System-wide Action Plan on Gender Equality and the Empowerment of Women
GEM	Gender Equality Marker	UN Women	United Nations Entity for Gender Equality and the Empowerment of Women
GEU	Gender Equality Unit	UN-Habitat	United Nations Human Settlement Programme
GFPs	Gender Focal Points	UNAIDS	United Nations Programme on HIV and AIDS
GLTN	Global Land Tool Network	UNCHS	United Nations Centre for Human Settlements
GPP	Policy and Plan for Gender Equality and the Empowerment of Women in Urban Planning and Human Settlements	UNDESA	United Nations Department of Economics and Social Affairs
GROOTS	Grassroots Organizations Operating Together in Sisterhood	UNDG-HRWG	United Nations Development Group – Human Rights Working Group
HRBA	Human Rights Based Approach	UNDP	United Nations Development Programme
HRM	Human Rights Marker	UNEP	United Nations Environment Programme (now, UN-Environment)
IANYD	Inter-Agency Network on Youth Development	UNHRP	United Nations Housing Rights Programme
ICESR	International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights	UNON	United Nations Office at Nairobi
ICLEI	Local Governments for Sustainability	WASH	Water, Sanitation and Hygiene
IOM	International Organization for Migration	WEIGO	Women in Informal Employment: Globalizing and Organizing
MASHAV	Agency for International Development Cooperation in the Ministry of Foreign Affairs	WFP	World Food Programme
NGO	Non-Governmental Organization	WICI	Women in Cities International
NUA	New Urban Agenda	WPAY	World Programme of Action for Youth
OECD	Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development	YAB	Youth Advisory Board
OHCHR	Office of the High Commissioner for Human Rights	YM	Youth Marker
PAAS	Project Accrual and Accountability System	Youth SWAP	United Nations System-wide Action Plan on Youth

CROSS-CUTTING ISSUES

INTRODUCTION

The UN-Habitat Strategic Plan 2014-2019 identifies four Cross-Cutting Issues to be mainstreamed: Climate Change, Gender Equality, Human Rights and Youth. The aim of mainstreaming these issues is to support country, regional and thematic offices, in order to ensure that all UN-Habitat work is targeting those furthest behind and promoting socially and environmentally sustainable cities. Mainstreaming does not require that each and every project directly aims to address and solve these issues, but rather that they are contributing to the larger long-term goals of UN-Habitat, the New Urban Agenda and the Sustainable Development Goals.

The four cross cutting issues are highly interrelated, especially in the context of urbanization. Cities are major contributors to climate change, whilst cities and residents are vulnerable to climate change and extreme weather. Among residents, women and youth are often the most vulnerable, along with other groups such as persons with disabilities, the poor, refugees and immigrants. They are usually marginalized in economic and political participation which means that they do not have equal access to the benefits of urbanization. Their rights to even the most basic services are sometimes hard to fulfilled. We are seeking an integrate approach to mainstream climate change, gender equality, human rights and youth issues into all UN-Habitat programmatic work.



CLIMATE
CHANGE



GENDER
EQUQLITY



HUMAN
RIGHTS



YOUTH

WHY ADDRESS THESE ISSUES?

INTRINSIC IMPORTANCE

The challenges of urbanization, particularly rising inequality and environmental degradation, are symptoms of a larger deficit to respect different people and the environment in cities. Only when all social and environmental dimensions are respected and prioritised will urbanization realize itself as the transformative force that it is.

Stark inequalities exist not only related to income and wealth, but to gender, age, ethnicity and minority status, among others. This manifests through inequalities in opportunities and outcomes relating to education, health, food security, employment, housing, health services and economic resources in cities.

AGENDA 2030 AND THE NEW URBAN AGENDA

The 2030 Agenda calls for ‘a world of universal respect for equality and non-discrimination’ (para 8), reaffirming the responsibilities of all States to ‘respect, protect and promote human rights’ (para 19). The overriding message is to leave no one behind, to ensure that targets are met for all people and to reach the furthest behind first.

Furthermore, the New Urban Agenda highlights the shared vision of ‘cities for all, referring to the equal use and enjoyment of cities

and human settlements, seeking to promote inclusivity and ensure that all inhabitants, of present and future generations, without discrimination of any kind’ (para 11). Throughout the Agenda there is consistent highlighting of the importance of gender, age and environmentally responsive policy-making and programming.

MANDATE

UN-Habitat is specifically mandated by the UN General Assembly to promote socially and environmentally sustainable towns and cities with the goal of providing adequate shelter for all. Further, as part of the UN family, UN-Habitat is mandated to respect human rights, address gender and age inequality and tackle climate change, in all of its activities.

Each of the four Cross-Cutting Issues has been individually highlighted by the UN-Habitat Governing Council, which calls upon the Agency to mainstream these issues throughout normative and operational work. Furthermore, UN-Habitat’s Strategic Plan (2014-2019) reaffirms the four cross-cutting issues for the Agency. All four cross-cutting issues are to be ‘mainstreamed throughout the seven focus areas, ensuring that all policies, knowledge management tools and operational activities address these issues in their design and implementation’ (para. 45).

HOW ARE THESE ISSUES ADDRESSED?

PROJECT SUPPORT AND THE MARKER SYSTEM

The primary aim of mainstreaming is to provide support and technical guidance to project managers. The Cross-Cutting teams are typically consulted during the project design phase, whereby they will provide input and guidance into project proposals. This is made mandatory at the project approval stage, where feedback is provided at the Project Advisory Group (PAG) based on the Cross-Cutting Markers.

UN-Habitat has adopted a Marker system for each of the four cross-cutting issues, based upon the UN-SWAP Gender Marker. This system serves as both a capacity building tool and a quality assurance measure. It requires that every proposal must meet minimum requirements for mainstreaming each issue, before it can be approved by the Project Advisory Group (PAG). Each Marker rates projects 0 to 3, based on the depth to which they have integrated the relevant issue. The Markers are used to analyse the background analysis, theory of change, implementation strategy, Logical Framework and budget of every project.

The Cross-Cutting Marker System, which is unique to the UN System, is one of the key accountability tools UN-Habitat uses to ensure inclusive and sustainable cities. The Markers require a rating to be given to all projects, indicating how much of UN-Habitat's work and financial resources are spent on projects and programmes that address the cross cutting issues. They are also used to track resources and report internally and externally, in particular to donors.

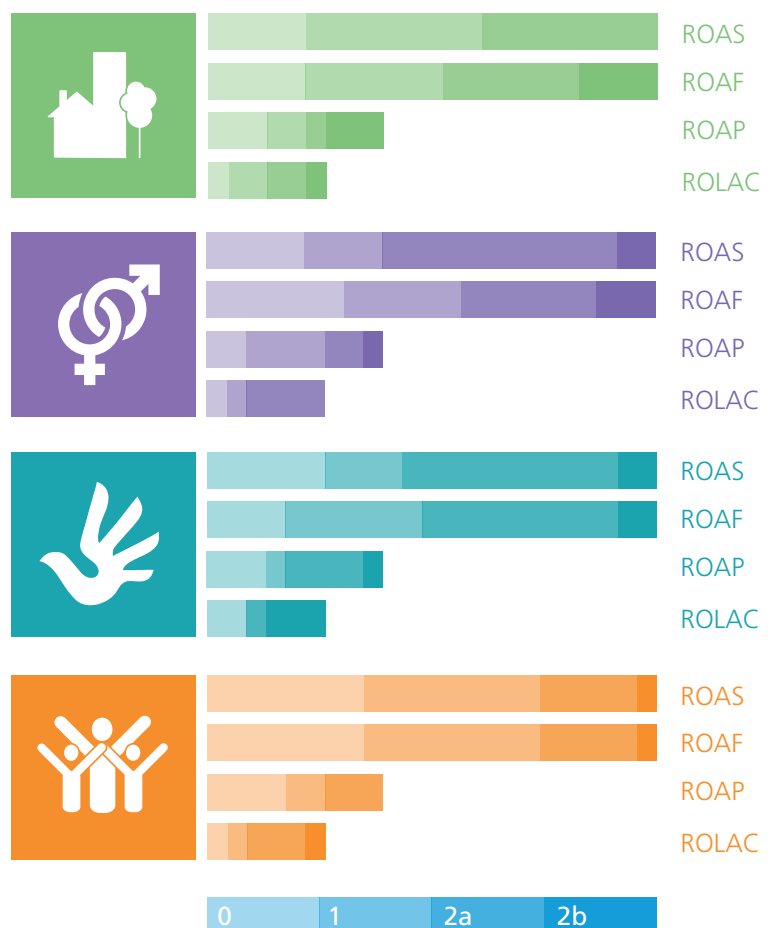
Since the introduction of the Markers, there has been a steady improvement in the percentage of UN-Habitat projects that are meeting the requirements of all four Markers.

In 2018 all four Markers have been applied to 100% of projects at the PAG – 91 projects this year – 61 full Project Documents and 30 Concept

Notes.

Since the introduction of the Markers in September 2015, there has been a steady improvement in results of projects. This is now reflected in positive results, whereby 73% of projects passed every Marker at first attempt. The remaining 27% passed once feedback and suggestions from Cross-Cutting Teams was included.

Of these 60%, the majority scored a higher mark (2 or 3) on at least one Marker, whilst roughly a quarter scored highly on 2 or more Markers. This demonstrates that the Markers are not only implementing a 'do no harm' principle, but pushing projects to seriously address the cross-cutting issues, and integrate the issues throughout project work.



COORDINATED MAINSTREAMING

The core objective of mainstreaming the cross-cutting issues is to ensure that all programmes and projects are integrating these issues throughout the Project Document, leading to integrated programme implementation. Over the past biennium, there has been a clear improvement in the integration of cross-cutting issues into project development.

To improve efficiency and effectiveness, the four cross-cutting issues work closely together in mainstreaming efforts. Based on monthly coordination meetings, the teams provide joint project feedback and support, internal capacity building efforts, advocacy and outreach, and reporting. This is carried out chiefly by a cross-cutting team that is employed equally by all four teams. Joint employees and regular meetings also ensure a unified voice in front of donors, evaluators and senior management.

INTERNAL CAPACITY BUILDING

The four cross-cutting issues have worked together to provide training workshops at regional and country level, in recent years. Thus far the trainings have been undertaken at Headquarters, ROAP, ROAS, Mozambique, Palestine, Ghana and Lebanon offices. These trainings focus on

practical and concrete measures that can be taken to integrate the cross-cutting issues into projects. The trainings are provided to projects managers working at all levels.

Furthermore, the teams run regular 'Brown Bag Lunches' that serve to share best practice, lessons learnt and knowledge between different branches and regions. These provide staff an opportunity to learn from each other, as well as here from external experts and practitioners.

ADVOCACY AND OUTREACH

During major events, such as the Governing Council and World Urban Forum, the Cross-Cutting Issues run joint side-events and other activities. This is in order to highlight the importance of socially and environmentally sustainable cities and ensure that partners and stakeholders are aware and informed of the importance of integrating these issues into their policies and programmes. Advocacy at the global level also ensures that social and environmental issues in cities remain high on the priority list of the international community, and that urbanization is seen as a powerful tool to address these issues.

Furthermore, each individual team engages in advocacy and outreach on an individual basis. This will be elaborated within each individual section

CROSS-CUTTING MAINSTREAMING

The results of mainstreaming work can be seen throughout the work of UN-Habitat. Mainstreaming ensures that all work is environmentally sustainable and targeted at those furthest behind. UN-Habitat has successfully empowered local communities through participation in urban governance and planning, in countries such as Afghanistan, Kenya, Somalia, Brazil, Colombia, Bolivia, Sri Lanka, Cambodia and Iraq. At country level, UN-Habitat personnel work closely with local authorities and community groups to ensure that no-one is left behind in urbanization. These country teams are supported by experts at HQ to promote people-centred sustainable cities.

Recent Evaluations highlight the impact of mainstreaming work. At the project level, the Evaluation of the Innovate Counties project in Kenya highlighted that ‘gender equality is also part of the struggle to sustainable development. To unlock full potential of the ICTs, for sustainable development, women need to be part of development and use of the ICTs solutions. This project also targets young girls with the aim of encouraging them to build ICT solutions within their communities.’ One of the female-start-up leaders from Mombasa revealed the relevance of this project to women and girls by stating that ‘women and girls have been given an upper hand in implementing some of their innovations and ideas in the government. This makes them more productive.’

At country level, in Sri Lanka, Government partners said that ‘UN-Habitat continues to change the lives of people, especially people who really need the assistance.’ Meanwhile, community members said ‘this is a process that works and gets community buy-in, and when you do this it creates successful projects and it lessens your problems every day.’ The Evaluator noted that Community Development Councils have provided women in the plantation sector with the safe and proper care of their children. Moreover, these mothers can now engage in productive

livelihood activities with “confidence and peace of mind.”

Regionally, in the Pacific, the Global Water Operators Partnership Alliance (GWOPA) has initiated the process for implementing a pilot Water Operators’ Partnership on climate change adaptation, highlighting the importance of climate change mainstreaming across partnerships.

The Evaluation of the Global Land Tool Network, one of UN-Habitat’s flagship programmes, noted that ‘Land tools are the GLTN’s “signature” product and its most valued contribution on a global scale. These include the Gender Evaluation Criteria (GEC) and Youth and Land Responsiveness Criteria (YLRC).’ At the operational level, ‘an estimated 2,259 people improved their knowledge of pro-poor and gender-responsive land tools and approaches, through the implementation of 101 capacity development initiatives. In total, 40 per cent of the GLTN’s capacity development participants were women.’

Another flagship programme, the Global Public Space Programme, is ‘especially recognized for innovation and high expertise in integration across thematic issues, in participatory design, in quality normative and operational knowledge, and proficiency in working with beneficiaries and target groups, especially women and youth.’

Similarly, the Evaluation of the City Resilience Profiling Programme (CRPP) highlighted that ‘two Urban Resilience Enhancers were developed and published: the Gender Equality Enhancer and the Climate Action Enhancer, both providing additional stand-alone tool and highlighting specific cross-cutting issues in the City Resilience Profiling Tool (CRPT).’

These Evaluations of country programmes, global programmes and individual projects demonstrate the transformative impact that mainstreaming has at all levels, across the agency.



CLIMATE CHANGE



2b	9
2a	24
1	19
0	9

CLIMATE CHANGE

INTRODUCTION

The effects of urbanization and climate change are converging in dangerous ways. Cities are major contributors to climate change: despite covering less than 2 per cent of the earth's surface, cities consume 78 per cent of the world's energy and produce more than 60 per cent of all carbon dioxide and significant amounts of other greenhouse gas emissions. At the same time, cities and towns are heavily vulnerable to climate change. Hundreds of millions of people in urban areas across the world will be affected by rising sea levels, increased precipitation, inland floods, droughts, landslides, more frequent and stronger cyclones and storms, and periods of more extreme heat and cold.

In fact, many major coastal cities with populations of more than 10 million people are already under threat. Climate change may also negatively impact infrastructure and worsen access to basic urban services and quality of life in cities. In addition, most of the vital economic and social infrastructure, government facilities, and assets are located in cities. The most affected populations are the urban poor – i.e. slum dwellers in developing countries – who tend to live along river banks, on hillsides and slopes prone to landslides, near

polluted grounds, on decertified land, in unstable structures vulnerable to earthquakes, and along waterfronts in coastal areas.

Despite these risks, many cities have not yet addressed climate change. The reasons include a lack of relevant city policies and action plans; existence of regulations on urban planning and environment which have not been adjusted to manage climate change; slow response to climate disasters due to lack of capacity and resources; and lack of public awareness on climate variability and climate change-induced hazard mitigation. However, when properly planned, capacitated, and managed through the appropriate governance structures, cities can be places of innovation and efficiency. Together with their local authorities, they have the potential to diminish the causes of climate change (mitigation) and effectively protect themselves from its impacts (adaptation).

In 2018, the world's leading climate scientists in the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC) reported on the impact that a rise of 1.5 °C would have and warned that beyond that any increase will significantly increase the risks of drought, floods, extreme heat and poverty.

INTERNATIONAL FRAMEWORKS

UNFCCC

The United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC) is an international environmental treaty established in 1992 as a response to stabilize greenhouse gas concentrations in the atmosphere at a level that will prevent dangerous human interference with the climate system. The main task of the secretariat was to support intergovernmental climate change negotiations. The largest and most important is the COP held annually and hosted alternately by the regional groups.

PARIS AGREEMENT

The Paris Agreement builds upon the Convention and for the first time brings all nations into a common cause to undertake ambitious efforts to combat climate change and adapt to its effects, with enhanced support to assist developing countries to do so. As such, it charts a new course in the global climate effort. The Paris Agreement central aim is to strengthen the global response to the threat of climate change by keeping a global temperature rise this century well below 2 degrees Celsius above pre-industrial levels and to pursue efforts to limit the temperature increase even further

to 1.5 degrees Celsius. Additionally, the agreement aims to strengthen the ability of countries to deal with the impacts of climate change.

The Paris Agreement entered into force on 4 November 2016, thirty days after the date on which at least 55 Parties to the Convention accounting in total for at least an estimated 55 % of the total global greenhouse gas emissions have deposited their instruments of ratification, acceptance, approval or accession with the Depositary.

[Source: <https://unfccc.int/process-and-meetings/the-paris-agreement/the-paris-agreement>]

SDG TARGET 11.B AND 13

The 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, adopted by all United Nations Member States in 2015, provides a shared blueprint for peace and prosperity for people and the planet, now and into the future.

SDG Target 11.b calls for by 2020, substantially increase the number of cities and human settlements adopting and implementing integrated policies and plans towards inclusion, resource efficiency, mitigation and adaptation to climate change, resilience to disasters,

and develop and implement, in line with the Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction 2015-2030, holistic disaster risk management at all levels. SDG 13 calls for urgent action to combat climate change and its impacts.

1 [Source: <https://sustainabledevelopment.un.org/sdgs>]

STRUCTURE AND MANDATE

STRATEGIC PLAN (2014 – 2019)

UN Habitat's Strategic Plan (2014-2019) reaffirms climate change as one of four cross-cutting issues for the Agency. All four cross-cutting issues are to be "mainstreamed throughout the seven focus areas, ensuring that all policies, knowledge management tools and operational activities address these issues in their design and implementation" (para. 45). At the same time the Strategic Plan indicates that climate change is also to be addressed through "Issue-specific projects [that] will seek to fill identified gaps in the field and will be located in the most appropriate focus area" (para. 38).

Climate change as a substantive topic falls within Sub-programme 2: Urban Planning and Design, with an Expected Accomplishment as follows:

Expected accomplishment 2.3: Improved policies, plans and strategies that contribute to the mitigation of and adaptation to climate change adopted by partner city, regional and national authorities.

MAINSTREAMING CLIMATE CHANGE AT UN-HABITAT

In addition to joint cross-cutting mainstreaming, particularly the Marker system, the UN-Habitat climate change team supports the mainstreaming through:

- ▶ UN-Habitat Climate Change Technical Support Team. Members of the Climate Change Technical Support Team, colleagues from all branches and offices, meet bimonthly to discuss climate change projects and related issues to support the agency-wide climate change mainstreaming.
- ▶ In-house climate change webinars. In 2018, the climate change team has run a series of webinars on climate finance, review of IPCC urban related chapters and Environmental and Social Safeguards systems for in-house capacity building, with over 110 attendees in total.
- ▶ Providing support for climate funding application. The Climate Change Planning Unit is coordinating UN-Habitat's cooperation with the Adaptation Fund, helping regional and country offices to submit proposals, build their capacity and overall develop a steady and regionally balanced pipeline of projects.

ADVOCACY AND OUTREACH

“PLANNERS FOR CLIMATE ACTION” INITIATIVE

Convened by UN-Habitat, the cooperative initiative is calling for an urgent need to integrate climate change in planning practices, build the capacity of current and future planners, as well as support knowledge development. Since its launch on 11 November 2017 in Bonn at COP-23, Planners for Climate Action (P4CA) has not stood still, starting with the release of a global ‘communiqué’ and its official registration in the Non-State Actors Zone for Climate Action (NAZCA) Platform under the UNFCCC’s Marrakesh Partnership of non-State actors for Global Climate Action. Partners have engaged planners around the world through their respective networks and events, in particular, during the 2018 Global Climate Action Summit in San Francisco and at the 2018 ISOCARP Congress in the city of Bodø, Norway. P4CA has also initiated social media presence in order to enrich the conversation on climate action.

CITIES AND CLIMATE CHANGE SCIENCE CONFERENCE

UN-Habitat co-organised the Cities and Climate Change Science Conference together with nine other partners and city of Edmonton, Canada in March 2018.

The main outcome of the Conference is a global research and action agenda on cities and climate change that has been delivered to, and approved by, the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change, with the aim of advancing climate change science and more recognition and visibility to the knowledge generated by urban actors. UN-Habitat contributed substantively to the research and action agenda and led conversations on climate action in informal contexts, advancing the inter-linkages between sustainable urbanization, development and climate change, and how to build more sustainable cities in the future. As one output to inform global knowledge on cities and climate change, at COP24 UN-Habitat published the proceedings document of this CitiesIPCC conference. The publication presents the key findings, papers, posters and outcomes from the conference.

LIMITING GLOBAL WARMING TO 1.5°C

In October 2018, the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change released its highly anticipated report¹ showing how the world can limit global warming to 1.5°C, and the human and ecological benefits of doing so. The report stated that in order to have a 75% chance of limiting warming to 1.5°C, it would be necessary to reduce global emissions to net zero by 2038. In addition, if warming were to rise to just 2°C, the human development impacts would be severe.

UN-Habitat contributed to a Summary for Urban Policymakers of this report, which was released at COP24 in December 2018, as well as coordinating and penning a joint open letter² to our partners, along with nine other organizations³ urging them to assess the implications of the report for their work. UN-Habitat is also working internally to examine the implications of 1.5°C on our programmatic and operational work, to ensure that we can be a leader in supporting countries and cities to deliver a 1.5°C future, while preparing them for the impacts of warming of 3°C or more.

@UNHABITAT
we are City Climate Action
#1o5C



2 <https://www.ipcc.ch/sr15/>

3 <https://unhabitat.org/un-habitat-signs-open-letter-to-urban-policymakers-calling-for-urgent-action-to-limit-global-warming/>

4 Nine other organizations are: Cities Alliance, CDP, Climate Alliance, Cities Climate Leadership Group (C40), Global Covenant of Mayors for Climate & Energy, Local Governments for Sustainability (ICLEI), United Cities & Local Governments (UCLG), WRI Ross Center for Sustainable Cities and World Wide Fund for Nature (WWF).

KNOWLEDGE PRODUCTS

“ADDRESSING URBAN AND HUMAN SETTLEMENTS ISSUES IN NATIONAL ADAPTATION PLANS – A SUPPLEMENT TO THE UNFCCC TECHNICAL GUIDELINES ON NATIONAL ADAPTATION PLAN PROCESS”

Integrating urban and human settlements aspects in National Adaptation Plans enables countries to improve the enabling environment to reduce vulnerabilities of large populations and improve adaptive capacity to climate change. Launched at COP24, this new UN-Habitat knowledge product responds to a call by Least Developed Countries Expert Group of the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC), inviting international actors to “...come forward in drafting supplementary sectoral guidelines to the NAP Technical Guidelines...”, the overarching guidance on formulating National Adaptation Plans. The main objective of this publication is to reduce the vulnerability of people living in urban areas to climate change related impacts. It aims to achieve this through two supporting objectives: which are i) to support countries to effectively address human settlements issues in the formulation and implementation of NAPs by building their capacity and ii) to enhance, more broadly, the position of adaptation in human settlements in other development policies, programmes and plans.

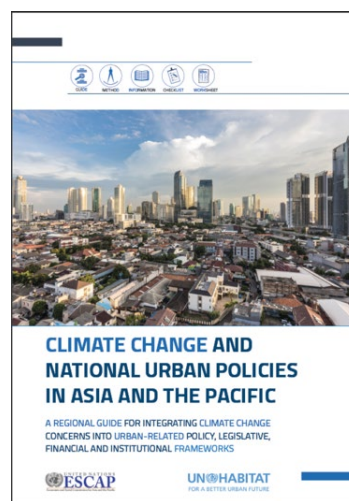
“CLIMATE CHANGE AND NATIONAL URBAN POLICIES IN ASIA AND THE PACIFIC - A REGIONAL GUIDE FOR MAINSTREAMING CLIMATE CHANGE INTO URBAN RELATED POLICY, LEGISLATIVE, FINANCIAL AND INSTITUTIONAL FRAMEWORKS.”

This Guide has been developed as a call for action to mainstream climate change into national-level urban-related policy frameworks in Asia and the Pacific. Applying a flexible and non-prescriptive approach, national urban ministries and other urban stakeholders can apply suggested steps for mainstreaming based on their respective circumstances, under a Framework composed of “Phases” and “Elements” that serve as the building blocks of the mainstreaming process. The result of the mainstreaming process will be the formulation, adoption and implementation of a coherent policy framework with climate change concerns integrated into relevant urban policy elements (e.g. key principles, sectoral chapters, action areas etc.), depending on each country’s unique context.

The Guide has primarily been developed for national level government officers that aim to mainstream climate change issues into their existing National Urban Policy. However, it can also be used to develop a new, climate-responsive National Urban Policy.



The Launch of “Addressing Urban and Human Settlements Issues in National Adaptation Plans” at COP 24 © UN-Habitat



GLOBAL PROGRAMMES

ADAPTATION FUND PROJECTS

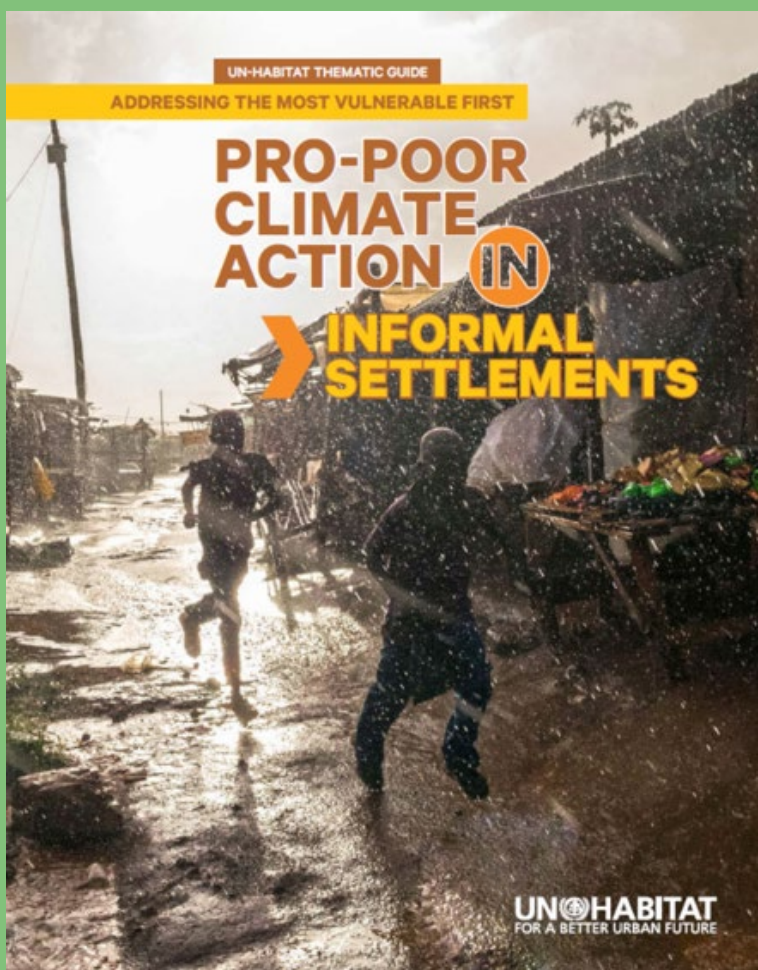
UN-Habitat was accredited by Adaptation Fund in 2015. Since then UN-Habitat has supported four countries in improving adaptation to Climate Change with approved project totaling roughly 18 Million USD. The Climate Change Planning Unit is coordinating UN-Habitat's cooperation with the Adaptation Fund, helping regional and country offices to submit proposals, build their capacity and overall develop a steady and regionally balanced pipeline of projects.

PRO-POOR PLANNING FOR CLIMATE RESILIENCE OF MARGINALIZED NEIGHBORHOODS

More closely aligning the work of its Cities and Climate Change Initiative (CCCI) and Participatory Slum Upgrading Program (PSUP) in addressing the effects of climate change and urban poverty, UN-Habitat has initiated the Pro-Poor Planning Project within the Asia-Pacific, African, Caribbean and Pacific (ACP) region. Pilot activities are under way in Lami (Fiji), Honiara (Solomon Islands), Ouagadougou (Burkina Faso), Bamenda (Cameroon) and Montego Bay (Jamaica). This project is to improve climate resilience in selected marginalized neighborhoods, within the context of ongoing city-wide climate resilience and resilience planning. In 2018, UN-Habitat published the first normative guide on Pro-Poor Climate Action in Informal Settlements⁴, intended to be the first of a series of knowledge resources for building resilience and addressing the challenges of informality hand-in-hand.

URBAN PATHWAY PROJECT

The “URBAN PATHWAYS - Supporting Low Carbon Plans for Urban Basic Services in the context of the New Urban Agenda” project, supported by the International Climate Initiative, has been globally launched in October 2017. The project embarks on a four-year programme of action to deliver on the combined aims and ambitions of the New Urban Agenda, Sustainable Development Goals, and the Paris Agreement – making a direct contribution by focusing on implementation programmes in



the area of energy, waste resource management, and transportation. The project is delivered in a partnership with UN-Habitat, the Wuppertal Institute and UN Environment. In 2018, the Urban Pathways project was launched in India, Brazil, Kenya and Viet Nam – being the four pilot countries for the implementation of the programme's identified work agenda. Assessments of the political, technological, socio-economic and financial viability of project concepts have been done for all four partner countries that informed the development of pilot project proposals in collaboration with partner cities, such as electric bike sharing for Belo Horizonte or low-carbon neighborhood for Hai Phong, Vietnam. These local implementation proposals are currently being

developed into bankable projects. Another key result for 2018 is the establishment of a Capacity Building programme for city and national officials to benefit from an online toolbox combined with various training opportunities, such as webinars or workshops on integrated basic services, that were held in collaboration with experts from the Urban Pathways team and related networks.

GREEN CLIMATE FUND ACCREDITATION

The Climate Change Planning Unit is supporting the Agency's 2016 accreditation to the Green Climate Fund (GCF), and supported the development of various internal systems, for example Environmental and Social Safeguards (ESS), and so far, completed two rounds of very detailed requests for information both in terms of substantive and operational readiness for partnering with the Fund.



**GREEN
CLIMATE
FUND**

REGIONAL AND COUNTRY PROGRAMMES

MAINSTREAMING CLIMATE CHANGE INTO URBAN RELATED POLICIES IN ASIA AND PACIFIC REGION

This regional project supports six countries in the Asia-Pacific region (Bangladesh, Myanmar, Republic of the Philippines, Solomon Islands, Sri Lanka, Viet Nam) with policy analysis and policy review emphasizing the integration of climate change into national urban policies. In 2018 a training event for participants of the six participating countries as well as five additional countries (Thailand, Afghanistan, Iran, Pakistan, India) that had indicated interest in replication was held prior to the World Urban Forum in Kuala Lumpur. The key documents are (and will be) available on http://www.fukuoka.unhabitat.org/cc_nup.

DEVELOPING NET ZERO CARBON PLANNING GUIDELINES FOR VILLAGES AROUND THE YANGTZE RIVER DELTA IN CHINA

Ensuring climate change is integrated into spatial and urban planning is crucial. UN-Habitat is involved in the development of net-zero carbon planning guidelines in the Yangtze River Delta region in China, in co-operation with Tongji University.

In recent years, a large number of new villages are undergoing renovation and expansion. There is a significant interest in ensuring these construction projects are designed to maximise human health and wellbeing, as well as ecosystem integrity, through the introduction of active mobility options, renewable energy and smart grids, efficient buildings, ecological wastewater and waste disposal, education and livelihood opportunities and more. The project, a collaboration between the Urban Planning and Design Branch and Urban Basic Services, aims to develop planning guidelines for local government leaders, entrepreneurs, and developers to use in order to ensure their designs promote a circular village metabolism and set a precedent for larger urban ecosystems.

FUTURE SAUDI CITIES PROGRAMME

The Kingdom of Saudi Arabia is witnessing a rapidly growing urbanization due to demographic, social and economic growth in the country. In response to the urban challenges that arose from the rapid growth, and supporting to the Urban Strategy of the Kingdom to achieve balanced development, a Royal Decree has been issued for the Ministry of Municipal and Rural Affairs, in cooperation with UN-Habitat to implement the “Future Saudi Cities” Program in order to achieve sustainable urbanization for the Kingdom. As one of the urban challenges, climate change is mainstreamed into this project.

In 2018 UN-Habitat trained 35 government staff in city climate action in a 10-day workshop in Riyadh, Kingdom of Saudi Arabia, consisting of modules on the basics of climate change, climate action planning and integrating climate change in statutory planning in Saudi Arabia. UN-Habitat further helped build the methodology to integrate climate change adaptation and mitigation in the city planning process, and helped pilot this methodology in the first five city planning processes for Damamm, Medinah, Tabuk, Mecca and Taif. The city planning now is informed by a local climate risk and vulnerability analysis and rapid greenhouse gas emission inventory analysis, in order to help address climate change vulnerabilities and sources in the planning processes.

In Damamm, a major economic center and coastal city, taking climate consideration on board has helped plan for more resilient coastal development and protection measures against sandstorms, while in Madinah and Tabuk, the flash flood response was another focus, helping the Kingdom achieve one of its objectives under the new Vision 2030, to improve coverage of drainage infrastructure. Designing compact neighborhoods to make public transport more viable and identifying urban systems that are apt for public transport may in the future reduce the utilization for high-emission individual transport. These are just some of the highlights of the integration of climate change into the Saudi Planning process.

35

GOVERNMENT
STAFF TRAINED

5

PLANNING
PROJECTS

Our Climate Action

The city we need is one that limits global warming to 1.5°C to avoid the future we do not want.

Limiting global warming to 1.5°C will require far reaching transitions in cities in the coming two decades.

Our responsibility is to support urban climate action in every country, city and community.



Pursuing the 1.5°C limit | How cities can help get the climate right

Cities are one of the cornerstones in our quest to limit warming to 1.5°C, an absolutely critical threshold to avoid the future we don't want. In order to limit warming to 1.5°C, we must reduce GHG emissions by 40 to 50% before 2030 from 2010 levels. This will require bold and ambitious efforts and changes in the way we plan, design, build and manage cities.

Scale matters. Cities will be hardest hit by floods, landslides, extreme heat or water stress affecting large populations. Climate action needs to be ambitious as cities grow at a fast pace in some regions. The urban population is increasing by 1.3 million people, the population of Copenhagen, or Kampala every week. There is no time to waste given the scale and speed of this transition.

Starting with the poor. Because climate change is a poverty multiplier, we need to start with the climate refugees and other marginalized groups who have already experienced disasters. We also need to prepare the most vulnerable communities and make them resilient to upcoming risks.

Cities are where global and local priorities intersect.

Introducing a low carbon city mobility plan not only cuts future emissions, but also brings new jobs to communities while improving lifestyles and health.

Cities and communities are where joint climate action starts, learning to live and build a sustainable future differently together, coping with the rapid changes to move towards a low carbon fossil-free future. We need to find ways to mitigate and adapt fast in order to cope with the pace of urbanization.

Planning differently. Cities need to take steps to address climate change by promoting climate-proof planning, assessing local vulnerabilities, setting emissions reductions targets, and outlining strategies and regulations to cut emissions and improve adaptation through innovative urban design and mobility plans.

Building differently. GHG emissions from buildings represent approximately one quarter of total global emissions. In order to remain under the 1.5°C threshold, emissions from buildings must be reduced by 80 to 90 % by 2050. This requires retrofitting 5% of all buildings in developed countries every year from 2020, and ensuring new urban construction becomes fossil fuel free, along with efficient, compact urban design.

Managing differently. We have already begun a great transition towards sustainable living, valuing preservation and resource optimization. A more proactive approach is needed through harnessing effective solutions and engaging all stakeholders to ensure resources are minimized and fully reutilized, by generating clean and resource-efficient energy, decarbonizing the electric grid and enabling the next-generation mobility.



Our Climate Action



CLIMATE ACTION CORPORATE COMMUNICATION

To gain visibility on UN-Habitat's climate action across the board, the Climate Change and Planning Unit Team has been working across all units and branches to prepare a series of materials. This started with a mapping exercise on four 'niches' of climate action identified by UN-Habitat's Climate Change Technical Support Team.

All mapped activities were presented in the four areas of climate action, branded around one slogan 'I am City Climate Action', as an engaging motto to be used by UN-Habitat across the board.

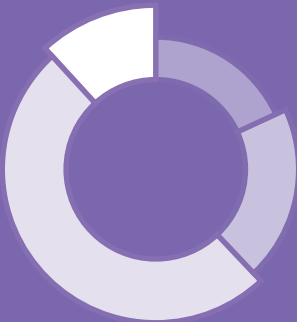
The approach also consisted in including recent findings on global warming released in 2018 in the build up to the COP24 Conference, in particular those released in October 2018 by the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change. Key messages were elaborated around the impact of a 2°C global warming as compared to a 1.5°C increase and explained in user-friendly illustrations. The materials also explain the responsibility of UN-Habitat to support climate action in every country city and community.

The new materials helped gain more clarity on the Agency's vision on Climate Action and its successes. These were presented at COP24 and are used as promotional materials in events and to present the agency to current and prospective partners.

The communication strategy also includes social media presence through more than 20 Twitter posts and webstories on our website, thereby reaching a broad audience online.



GENDER EQUALITY



2b	7
2a	31
1	12
0	11

GENDER EQUALITY

INTRODUCTION

Rapid and unplanned urbanization has established a challenge to national and local governments in their role to develop economically fair and vibrant, inclusive, safe cities. In this process of fast urbanization, failure to fully mainstream gender equality into urban planning, legislation and economic development is hindering the inclusiveness of cities and preventing the full integration of women and girls in the economic, social, political and cultural life of cities.

Indeed, gender inequalities, as a result of socio-cultural norms and unconscious biases, persist; causing women and girls to benefit less from urbanization and urban spaces than men and boys. In fact, women and girls in cities face a range of specific barriers and vulnerabilities based on gender inequalities: gender based violence,

feminization of poverty, paid employment, limited control over housing, land and property rights(HLP), glass ceiling and sexual harassment at workplace, safety issues in public spaces and transportation, unequal participation in public and private decision-making; as well as, barriers to education, housing and basic services.

In this current process of the urbanization of poverty, failure to mainstream gender equality into urban planning, land and legislation, finance and economic development hinders the inclusiveness of cities. In order to empower women and girls and improve the well-being of all persons in the city, it is paramount to work toward promoting inclusive cities with spaces that welcome and engage women and girls.

INTERNATIONAL FRAMEWORKS

There are a number of international agreements pertaining to gender equality and women's empowerment. Currently, those most prominent are:

- ▶ Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women (CEDAW) 1979;
- ▶ Declaration of Violence Against Women (DEVAW) 1993;
- ▶ Beijing Platform for Action (1995);
- ▶ UN Security Council Resolution 1325 (2000);
- ▶ SDG 5: achieve gender equality and empower all women and girls;
- ▶ Goal 11: make cities and human settlements inclusive, safe, resilient and sustainable, specifically targets: 11.1, 11.2, 11.5, 11.7, and 11.a; and
- ▶ NUA advocates the inclusion of women in urban decision-making, and promotes gender responsive financing, safety, basic services and urban planning.



Gender mainstreaming and women's empowerment fall within the docket of Deputy Executive Director, and are implemented, at a normative level, by the Gender Equality Unit (GEU), housed in Programme Division. UN-Habitat's Strategic Plan 2014-2019 outlines that Gender Equality is a cross-cutting issue that is to be mainstream across the Agency's work. The GEU is also the site of the Secretariat for The Advisory Group on Gender Issues (AGGI), an independent

advisory body to the Executive Director.

UN-Habitat Governing Council Resolution 23/11 established the framework for the Policy and Plan for Gender Equality and the Empowerment of Women in Urban Development and Human Settlements 2014-2019 (GPP) and The Gender Equality Action Plan 2014-2019 (GEAP). As it stands the GPP 2014-2019 and the GEAP 2014-2019 contain three outputs:

- ▶ Programme: technical and normative assistance provided to national, regional and local authorities and other stakeholders, so that their policies, plans and programmes achieve clearly articulated, time-bound and measurable gender equality and women's empowerment results in the areas of UN-Habitat's strategic priorities, identified on the basis of gender analysis, assessed against clearly defined baseline data disaggregated by sex and age.
- ▶ Progress towards internal gender parity at all levels, and particularly at the P5 levels and above clearly demonstrated, according to the defined United Nations formula, as an objective indicator of organizational commitment to gender equality and women's rights, and of an organizational culture with the capacity to advance them.
- ▶ Internal institutional arrangements that are fully conducive to the above two outputs increasingly in place, in progressive compliance with the performance standards set out in the System-Wide Action Plan for Gender Equality and The Empowerment of Women (UN SWAP).

At the normative level and in order to meet with output (i), UN-Habitat relies on a network of the Gender Focal Points (GFPs), at Headquarters, Regional Offices, and Country Offices, who promote the incorporation of gender-responsive methodologies into UN-Habitat's programmes and projects. Further, the Habitat University Network Initiative (UNI) runs a thematic hub on gender hosted by the National University of Cordoba, Argentina, led by AGGI vice-chair, Professor Ana Falú. The Hub works to disseminate and exchange processes and tools in order to deliver gender-responsive sustainable urban development.

At present, the Agency continues to work toward output (ii) and has successfully reached broad internal gender parity levels within the Agency. However, gender parity remains to be met at all general service and professional levels, in particular the P4 and P5 levels. The new Secretary-General has highlighted gender parity as a high personal priority. The UN-Habitat Senior Management Board has recently approved the Gender Parity Strategy, up to 2025. This strategy aims to improve opportunities for women and therefore improve parity at the higher professional levels within the agency.

MAINSTREAMING GENDER AT UN-HABITAT

In addition to joint cross-cutting the UN-Habitat Gender Equality Unit supports mainstreaming, particularly the Marker system, mainstreaming through:

- ▶ **The Gender Focal Point Network:** This in-house Network comprises personnel from each branch, division, regional office and larger country offices. The Network meets regularly to share best practice in gender-responsive programming, coordinate efforts at major events and support the Gender Equality Unit in programme support and expertise.
- ▶ **The Women's Network:** UN-Habitat has developed an informal network of female personnel across the world, as a support network and to share ideas for addressing gender parity in-house.
- ▶ **Unconscious Bias Training:** In collaboration with the UN Office in Nairobi (UNON) and UN-Environment, UN-Habitat has provided training for personnel, particularly managers, on unconscious bias. The training explores the biases against different gender and groups that are ingrained in our sub-conscious. It aims not to change these biases, but to improve awareness and understanding of colleagues.
- ▶ **Engagement in Inter-Agency Network for Gender Equality and Women's Empowerment:** UN-Habitat is an active member of IANGWE and actively supported the roll-out of UN-SWAP 2.0, the Theory of Change for Women's Empowerment in the UN-System and Nairobi-wide work with UNON and UN-Environment.

ADVOCACY AND OUTREACH

WORLD URBAN FORUM

UN-Habitat hosted the 9th World Urban Forum (WUF), in Kuala Lumpur in February 2018. This is the preeminent global urban event, attracting over 20,000 participants. On the first day the Women's Assembly was held, attracting over 500 participants. The all-day event included high-level segment, TED-style talks and workshops, ultimately producing a series of recommendations that fed into the Kuala Lumpur Declaration. The Assembly also serves as a capacity building exercise, engaging grassroots women, NGOs, civil society and governments in discussions.

UN-Habitat also hosted the Women's Roundtable at WUF, which attracted over 150 participants and developed clear priorities and recommendations for improving urban governance and gender-responsive climate action. These two flagship events combined with over 15 side-events on gender ensured that gender-equal cities remain a priority for all.

COMMISSION ON THE STATUS OF WOMEN

In 2018 the Annual CSW Conference focused on the theme "Challenges and opportunities in achieving gender equality and the empowerment of rural women and girls." Accordingly, UN-Habitat hosted an event highlighting the importance of improving land rights for women. Women produce over 50% of global agriculture, but own less than 10% of land. This event highlighted the need for gender-responsive land tools and methodologies, as promoted through the Global Land Tool Network (GLTN).

HIGH-LEVEL POLITICAL FORUM

In partnership with UN-Women and the Huairou Commission, UN-Habitat hosted a key event on 'Improving accountability for the gender-responsive implementation of the New Urban Agenda.' This event linked SDG 5 and 11 and highlighted the importance of implementing both together.



REGIONAL AND NATIONAL EVENTS

This year UN-Habitat has increased participation in events focusing on gender equality, engaging a wider audience in the challenges and potential solutions for empowering women in cities. In particular, the Executive Director has engaged in the Stockholm Forum on Gender Equality, the European Development Days (EDD) and the Women's Roundtable at the Green Environment Facility's Annual Assembly.

KNOWLEDGE PRODUCTS

GENDER EQUALITY ENHANCER

As part of the City Resilience Profiling Programme, UN-Habitat has developed the 'Gender Equality Enhancer.' This Enhancer helps gather relevant information on the relationship between gender, human development, and city resilience, in order to mainstream gender equality in cities. This Enhancer is applied at the city level and helps measure the resilience of cities in a gender responsive manner.

URBAN 20 WHITE PAPER ON GENDER INEQUALITIES IN CITIES

In partnership with the Banco de Desarrollo de America Latina (CAF) and the Inter-American Development Bank (IADB), UN-Habitat co-authored a White Paper titled 'Gender Inequalities in Cities.' The paper was published by the Urban20 Group of Mayors, and presented to world leaders at the G20 Summit in Buenos

INTERNATIONAL GENDER CHAMPIONS NETWORK

The Executive Director of UN-Habitat has accepted a role as an 'International Gender Champion.' The IGC is a leadership network that brings together female and male decision-makers to break down gender barriers. In this role, the Executive Director has committed to promote gender equality within UN-Habitat and throughout the programmatic work of the agency.

ADVISORY GROUP ON GENDER ISSUES (AGGI)

The Advisory Group on Gender Issues is comprised of international activists, professionals, experts and academics that have a passion for promoting gender equality. AGGI advises the Executive Director on how best to promote gender equality through urban development. The high-level members of AGGI promote gender equality across the globe and have participated in a variety of engagements in 2018, including Panel Discussions, Expert Group Meetings and major conferences. In particular, AGGI was instrumental in promoting gender equality at the World Urban Forum in Kuala Lumpur and engendering the Kuala Lumpur Declaration.

Aires, Argentina. The paper focused on Service Accessibility, Political Accessibility and Economic Accessibility for women in cities.

WOMEN AND LAND IN THE MUSLIM WORLD

UN-Habitat and Global Land Tool Network (GLTN) partners have developed the Guide 'Women and Land in the Muslim World.' Access to land is a key element that allows women and men to fully play their role in building peaceful, stable and prosperous societies and to enjoy the full range of human rights. Indeed, the social and economic development of communities and societies cannot take place in a sustainable manner without the full contribution of women. This report provides practical and evidence-based guidance on how to improve women's access to land in the specific context of the Muslim world.

GLOBAL PROGRAMMES

GLTN

The Evaluation of the Global Land Tool Network, one of UN-Habitat's flagship programmes, noted that 'Land tools are the GLTN's "signature" product and its most valued contribution on a global scale. These include the Gender Evaluation Criteria (GEC) and Youth and Land Responsiveness Criteria (YLRC).' At the operational level, 'an estimated 2,259 people improved their knowledge of pro-poor and gender-responsive land tools and approaches, through the implementation of 101 capacity development initiatives. In total, 40 per cent of the GLTN's capacity development participants were women.'

GLOBAL PUBLIC SPACE PROGRAMME

Another flagship programme, the Global

Public Space Programme, is 'especially recognized for innovation and high expertise in integration across thematic issues, in participatory design, in quality normative and operational knowledge, and proficiency in working with beneficiaries and target groups, especially women and youth.'

ISRAEL TRAINING

In partnership with Israel's Agency for International Development Cooperation (MASHEV) and

UN-Environment, UN-Habitat ran capacity building for local government officials from across the globe. This series of workshops focused on inclusive and sustainable public space and public transport, creating safer spaces for women in an environmentally friendly way.

REGIONAL AND COUNTRY PROGRAMMES

SRI LANKA

In Sri Lanka, Government partners said that 'UN-Habitat continues to change the lives of people, especially people who really need the assistance.' Meanwhile, community members said 'this is a process that works and gets community buy-in, and when you do this it creates successful

projects and it lessens your problems every day.' The Evaluator noted that Community Development Councils have provided women in the plantation sector with the safe and proper care of their children. Moreover, these mothers can now engage in productive livelihood activities with "confidence and peace of mind."

16 DAYS OF ACTIVISM AGAINST GENDER BASED VIOLENCE

The 16 days of Activism against Gender Based Violence (GBV) this year focused on the theme of #HearMeToo. As part of this, UN-Habitat curated a sound installation in the UN Office in Nairobi (UNON), fusing the sounds of the city with narrations of personal experiences of GBV.

The stories were collected anonymously, with 18% from men and 82% from women. The stories ranged from street harassment to cases of extreme violence and were played in a blackout sound booth. Through these stories the listener experienced the harassment and violence firsthand.

Many were shocked: 'I was surprised... you often think that these things just happen to people far away... but these stories are all from our friends and colleagues. It happens every day, to normal people'

The stories highlighted highly complex issues:

- ▶ *Many victims experience ideas of shame and blaming oneself for what happened*
- ▶ *Many fear being blamed, ignored or not believed.*
- ▶ *There is often pressure on women to change their behaviour – how they dress, not being 'provocative,' not arguing or fighting back.*
- ▶ *There is a lasting impact of even "minor" incidents – it effects people for lifetimes*

There were varying reactions from those who stepped into the sound booth. Many shared their personal stories and reflected on past experiences.

Some acknowledged that there is progress: "I can tell you that these stories are not as rampant as they used to be."

The Exhibition raised critical awareness on how GBV effects the work of the UN, and effects the everyday lives of those who work with and for the UN. Many resolved to change their behaviour: ‘It made me think that there are comments we make among groups of male friends. You think you’re being funny but you’re doing more harm. I am going to change that.’

The 16 Days culminated in a Joint Town Hall with all UN agencies in Kenya. The respective leaders called upon men and women to ‘speak up against this. Speak up when you see or hear it. Speak up when you experience it. And let us all listen to victims. Believe victims and support them.’

EXPERT GROUP MEETING ON ENGENDERING SDG 11

On 5 and 6 June 2018, the United Nations Entity for Gender Equality and the Empowerment of Women (UN Women), the United Nations Environment Programme (UN Environment) and the United Nations Human Settlements Programme (UN-Habitat), co-organized an Expert Group Meeting (EGM) on “Building sustainable and resilient societies through the gender-responsive implementation of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development”. The meeting took place as a contribution to the High-level Political Forum on Sustainable Development (HLPF) at its July 2018 session.

The EGM provided an opportunity for Member States, UN entities, civil society organizations, academics and other stakeholders to discuss good practices, implementation challenges and lessons learned in the gender-responsive implementation of the 2030 Agenda, with a focus on the Sustainable Development Goals under review during the 2018 HLPF: SDG 6 (water and sanitation), SDG 7 (energy), SDG 11 (cities and human settlements), SDG 12 (consumption and production) and SDG 15 (terrestrial ecosystems).

The meeting focused on the integration of gender perspectives in SDGs 6, 7, 11, 12 and 15. Discussion of each SDG was framed by a short expert presentation, followed by interactive dialogue among the experts. The Meeting produced key recommendations for the 2018 HLPF on the integration of gender perspectives across the five SDGs.





HUMAN RIGHTS



2b	12
2a	29
1	15
0	5

HUMAN RIGHTS

INTRODUCTION

The United Nations Human Settlements Programme (UN-Habitat), is mandated by the UN General Assembly to promote socially and environmentally sustainable towns and cities with the goal of providing adequate housing for all.

The realization of the human right to adequate housing of all urban residents is a prerequisite for inclusive and sustainable urban centres for all. Currently, almost 1 billion people of the world's urban population live in inadequate housing conditions in slums and at least 2 million people in the world are forcibly evicted every year, while millions are threatened with forced evictions. Violation of the right to adequate housing leads to spatial fragmentation and increases the risk of a deficit of also other human rights, by groups who are discriminated, marginalized and excluded.

As per its mandate, UN-Habitat is committed

to the realization of the right to adequate housing by ensuring that all its interventions are underpinned by universal values and human rights that promote the adoption and implementation of a strong human rights-based approach to development.

This report highlights some of the work that has been performed by UN-Habitat in the past year to promote and protect human rights in cities across the world, by the team in collaboration with other units, branches as well as country and regional offices. It also details collaborations with other partners including OHCHR, ICRAF, ICRC, UN-OCHA. The initiatives include projects, events, publications, advocacy, capacity building, and other key activities in the various portfolios that UN-Habitat has been covering to ensure the right to an adequate standard of living for all.

INTERNATIONAL FRAMEWORKS

THE RIGHT TO ADEQUATE HOUSING

The human right to adequate housing is recognized in international human rights law as component of the right to an adequate standard of living, enshrined in the Universal Declaration of Human Rights (UDHR, adopted in 1948) and the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights (ICESCR, adopted in 1966). It is also enshrined in other UN treaties' provisions of which all states have ratified at least one⁵.

The United Nations Committee on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights has underlined that the right to adequate housing should not be interpreted narrowly. Rather, it should be viewed as the right to live somewhere in security, peace and dignity. The characteristics of the right to adequate housing are clarified mainly in the Committee's general comments No. 4 (1991) on the right to adequate housing and No. 7 (1997) on forced evictions.

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- ▶ Universal Declaration of Human Rights (UDHR) (Article 25)
 - ▶ Convention Relating to the Status of Refugees (Article 21)
 - ▶ Convention on the Rights of the Child (CRC) (Article 27)
 - ▶ Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities (CRPD) (Article 9 and 28)
 - ▶ International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights (ICESCR) (Article 11)
 - ▶ Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women (CEDAW) (Article 14)
 - ▶ International Convention on the Protection of the Rights of All Migrant Workers and Members of Their Families (ICMW) (Article 43)

Essentially, adequate housing entails more than four walls and a roof. As per General Comment No. 4, for housing to be adequate, it must, at a minimum, meet the following criteria:

SECURITY OF TENURE	<i>Housing is not adequate if its occupants do not have a degree of tenure security which guarantees legal protection against forced evictions, harassment and other threats.</i>
AVAILABILITY OF SERVICES, MATERIALS, FACILITIES AND INFRASTRUCTURE	<i>Housing is not adequate if its occupants do not have safe drinking water, adequate sanitation, energy for cooking, heating, lighting, food storage or refuse disposal.</i>
AFFORDABILITY	<i>Housing is not adequate if its cost threatens or compromises the occupants' enjoyment of other human rights.</i>
HABITABILITY	<i>Housing is not adequate if it does not guarantee physical safety or provide adequate space, as well as protection against the cold, damp, heat, rain, wind, other threats to health and structural hazards.</i>
ACCESSIBILITY	<i>Housing is not adequate if the specific needs of disadvantaged and marginalized groups are not considered.</i>
LOCATION	<i>Housing is not adequate if it is cut off from employment opportunities, health-care services, schools, childcare centres and other social facilities, or if located in polluted or dangerous areas.</i>
CULTURAL ADEQUACY	<i>Housing is not adequate if it does not respect and consider the expression of cultural identity</i>

The right to adequate housing also contains freedoms. These freedoms include:

Protection against forced evictions and the arbitrary destruction and demolition of one's home;

The right to be free from arbitrary interference with one's home, privacy and family; and

The right to choose one's residence, to determine where to live and to freedom of movement.

THE SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT GOALS (SDGS)

In September 2015, the UN Member States adopted the “Transforming Our World: The 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development”, with 17 global Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) and 169 corresponding targets. Enshrined in the 2030 Agenda are the pledges to “leave no one behind” and “reach the furthest behind first”, along with the commitment to ensure that everyone is benefitting from the advances, including people who are experiencing marginalization, discrimination and exclusion. It emphasizes the importance of disaggregating data as key to achieving this.

SDG 11 aims toward “making cities and human settlements inclusive, safe, resilient and sustainable.” This provides housing and slum upgrading actors with the unique opportunity to make concerted efforts toward developing human rights-based, strategic and globally aligned approaches geared to inclusive urban development. Through SDG 11, it is understood that critical elements to inclusive and sustainable urbanization include slum upgrading, the right to adequate housing, water and sanitation, gender equality, and inclusion of groups in situations

of vulnerability. Further, housing and slum upgrading policies, programmes and projects relate to other SDGs on poverty, health, reduced inequalities, gender equality, clean water and sanitation, and affordable and clean energy⁶.

THE NEW URBAN AGENDA

The New Urban Agenda (NUA), adopted in 2016 at the United Nations Conference on Housing and Sustainable Urban Development (Habitat III), is an action-oriented document that sets the global standards of achievement in sustainable urban development firmly grounded in the UDHR that focuses on the realization of human rights, including the right to adequate housing. It sets the framework for sustainable urban development globally for the coming twenty years.

One of the eight proposed guiding principles of the New Urban Agenda is the promotion of a new urbanization model that contains mechanisms and procedures which respect, protect, and promote human rights, through the Human Rights-Based Approach to urbanization⁷. In this regard, its application requires the facilitation collaboration and cooperation with partners, stakeholders, and urban key players in the private and public sector⁸.

STRUCTURE AND MANDATE

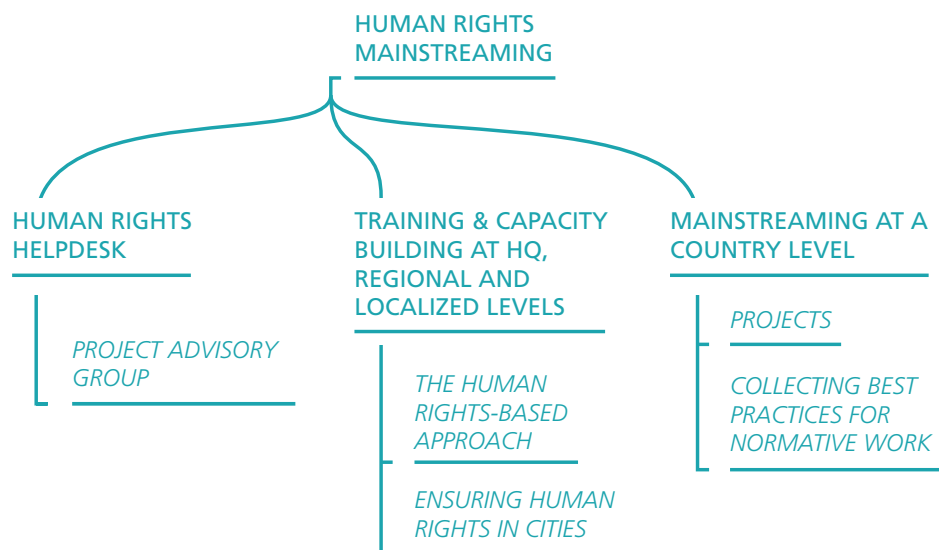
In 2013, human rights mainstreaming was approved as a priority issue by the UN-Habitat Governing Council through its inclusion in the UN-Habitat Strategic Plan 2014-2019, and it was explicitly reaffirmed in paragraphs 44 and 52. UN-Habitat has as its human rights mainstreaming objective to promote the strongly human rights-based United Nations NUA, including through strengthening and systematizing its engagement vis-à-vis global policy developments including the 2030 Sustainable Development Agenda and the Human Rights Up Front Initiative of the UN Secretary General.

The objectives of human rights mainstreaming are to improve the capacity of UN Habitat staff and partners to apply human rights considerations in project implementation, to strengthen the effective integration of the Human Rights-Based Approach into the UN Habitat project cycle, and to spur the development of tools that guide a human rights-based implementation of UN Habitat projects. The human rights mainstreaming team builds on existing knowledge, improves the impact and sustainability of our work, and ensures that it is targeting those furthest behind.

7 United Nations (2015), *Transforming Our World: The 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development*

8 High Level Committee on Programmes (2014), *Urbanization and Sustainable Development: Towards a New United Nations Urban Agenda, Twenty-Eighth Session, CEB/2014/HLC-P-28/CRP.5, Executive Summary and paras. k, 13 and 16.2.*

9 <https://www2.habitat3.org/bitcache/97ced11dcecf85d41f74043195e5472836f6291?vid=588897&disposition=inline&op=view>



MAINSTREAMING HUMAN RIGHTS AT UN-HABITAT

HUMAN RIGHTS HELP DESK

The human rights help desk function consists of human rights experts who assist in the design, formulation, monitoring, implementation, evaluation, replication and scaling-up of all un-habitat projects. They also produce normative guidance materials, deliver advisory services and contribute as appropriate to global policy developments including the post-2015 agenda, the human rights up front initiative, the universal periodic review, and the united nations new urban agenda.

ADVISORY SERVICES

Through the Project Advisory Group (PAG), human rights reviews of project documents ensure that:

- ▶ People in vulnerable situations (such as poor, slum-dwellers, people under threat of forced evictions, children, youth, elderly, people with disabilities, displaced persons and migrants, indigenous peoples, homeless persons, minorities, persons of diverse sexual orientations and gender expressions, people living with HIV/AIDS, and women in these categories) are empowered to claim their rights and allowed to participate at all levels of action and at all stages of activity;
- ▶ Disaggregated data is used and collected; and
- ▶ Gender dimensions are addressed and monitored, and evaluation is included within the project's budget.



Towards this we use the Human Rights Marker, a tool to ensure human rights mainstreaming according to the Human Rights-Based Approach (HRBA) in UN-Habitat's Project Briefs and Project Documents. It seeks to ensure that disaggregated data are available to ensure a focus on the most discriminated and marginalized; projects are appropriately located within the international and national legal frameworks, collaboration at country level particularly project implementation plans, and related indicators ensure broad-based participation, etc.

TRAINING AND CAPACITY BUILDING

The Training and Capacity Building Component for staff and external stakeholders is in place to develop and deliver unified guidance for staff and stakeholders on how to most appropriately integrate issues of human rights into their work, drawing on work already produced within the UN system.

THE HUMAN RIGHTS-BASED APPROACH

All programmes of development co-operation should further the realization of human rights as grounded in the UDHR and other international human rights instruments. HRBA applies a holistic development approach that addresses inequalities and discrimination, leaving no one behind and reaching the furthest behind in development by placing power relationships in human settlements at the heart of its analysis. It entails a 4-step process (human rights analysis, causality analysis, role pattern analysis and the capacity gap analysis) that ultimately enhances the possibilities of integrated, sustainable and inclusive interventions for urbanization processes to effect transformative change.

Applying a human rights-based approach (HRBA) defines a pattern of human rights relationships between the individual (rights holder) and the State (duty-bearer). It moves away from simply assessing the needs of beneficiaries toward empowering and building their capacity as (right holders) in asserting their rights. Thus, promoting and mainstreaming human rights effectively into strategies, policies, programmes and advisory services UN-Habitat contributes to the meaningful participation of the beneficiaries in urban development, especially amongst the marginalized.

HUMAN RIGHTS-BASED APPROACH TRAINING VIDEOS

The team produced a compilation of short videos that clearly and concisely explain what it means to apply the human rights-based approach, the challenges and the benefits. The videos are basically a compressed version of information that was shared during the Human Rights in Cities training last year. They are dictated by Malavika Vartak, an expert on economic, social and cultural rights, including housing and land rights. The objective is that the videos will lead to better developed project documents and a keener understanding on human rights and therefore more positive and sustainable impacts on project implementation long-term. The videos go through the 4 stages of the human rights-based approach.



THE HUMAN RIGHTS ANALYSIS

- ▶ *Identify the human rights relevant to the intervention and source the human rights framework they are found*
- ▶ *Assess the level of enjoyment/fulfilment of the rights by the intended target population*
- ▶ *Evaluate whether groups in vulnerable situations are at a higher risk of having these rights violated*

THE CAUSALITY ANALYSIS

- ▶ *Identify the manifested problem for the specific intervention/right you are targeting*
- ▶ *Identify the immediate, underlying and the root causes of the problem and link them to the effects*

THE ROLE PATTERN ANALYSIS

- ▶ *Identify the rights-holders and their claims (national and international law)*
- ▶ *Assess the level of enjoyment or lack thereof of the rights they have claims to*
- ▶ *Identify the duty-bearers and their obligation to address the rights claimed (national and international law)*
- ▶ *Assess the role the duty-bearers currently play in respecting, protecting, and fulfilling said rights*
- ▶ *Identify the individuals/groups in the most vulnerable situations*
- ▶ *Pair the rights to the duties to be of focus in the intervention to bring change for those in the most vulnerable situations*

THE CAPACITY GAP ANALYSIS

- ▶ *Identify the capacity gaps that bar the rights-holders from claiming their right*
- ▶ *Identify the capacity gaps that bar the duty-bearers from meeting their obligation to respect, protect, and fulfill human rights*
- ▶ *Identify the actions to be taken to reduce or close the capacity gaps so that the target population and people in situations of vulnerability are prioritized in the intervention*

HUMAN RIGHTS IN CITIES BROWN BAG LUNCH SERIES
Homelessness: Women, Children and Youth's Right to Adequate Housing

The specific vulnerabilities to violations of different groups of women, such as victims of domestic violence; widowed, divorced or separated women; female heads of households; victims of forced evictions, etc. are another major obstacle to the realization of their right to adequate housing. Homelessness has effects on children, compromising their growth, development and security. Homeless children can be vulnerable to a range of emotional problems, including anxiety, sleeplessness, aggression and withdrawal.

The speakers included Faith Wafula from the Bridge Centers, who offered knowledge and understanding on the specific vulnerabilities of

children and their right to adequate housing, negative impacts and Rachael Mwikali, from the Coalition for Grassroots Human Rights Defenders who focused on the vulnerabilities of women and their right to adequate housing, homeless effects on women, etc.

Integrating Migrant Women in Cities

Women and girls face discrimination and violence every day, simply because of their gender and make up around 50% of any refugee, internally displaced or stateless population, and those who are unaccompanied, pregnant, heads of households, disabled or elderly are especially vulnerable. Especially in-migrant groups who are strictly bound to patriarchal social norms, the social and economic integration of women to the city is difficult.

Increasing urban mobility and urban public

space use constitute a significant part of the process of overcoming the barriers of social exclusion. Through spatial integration measures, the social inclusion of migrants in urban settings can be improved. Public spaces can play a key role in improving migrants' inclusion by acting as places for intercultural dialogue and exchange. We had representatives from ICRAF (Mary Njenga) and Save Somali Women and Children (Halima Adan) as panelists for this discussion.

War in Cities: Avoiding and Minimizing Effects on Vital Infrastructure and Communities

The growing urbanization of warfare is a trend that has a catastrophic impact on the civilian population and poses serious legal and operational challenges. The immediate challenge of the New Urban Agenda is to make today's cities resilient to armed conflict, disasters and violence. A truly resilient city is one that continues to work in bad times as well as good. Bad times are the acid test of resilience in cities. Keeping cities working for their people in the terrible conditions of conflict, disaster and violence is the challenge spelt out in the important humanitarian commitments of the New Urban Agenda.

In this session, the panelists of this discussion were David Evans, the emergency coordinator at UN-Habitat and Eve Massingham from the ICRC. Together, we discussed how UN-Habitat elaborate policies that support resilient urban services during armed conflict, increase respect for international humanitarian law during urban warfare, and assist governments to work with people affected by chronic urban violence.



Solutions and recommendations that were made were that moving forward UN-Habitat should:

- ▶ Recognize the interconnectedness of services and infrastructure in cities and the cumulative long-term impact protracted urban conflict on people and services.
- ▶ Support sustainable humanitarian responses that maintain resilient urban infrastructure and services during armed conflict, and to structure the financing for ensuring 'development holds' in conflict and situations of fragility
- ▶ Remind States of the feasible precautionary measures that State authorities, urban planners and parties to armed conflict (including non-State armed groups) must take both during armed conflicts and in peacetime to ensure protection of civilians against the effects of attacks.
- ▶ Recall the obligation to respect IHL during armed conflicts in order to spare the civilian population and civilian objects in urban areas. The specific challenges posed by urban warfare should be considered in an urbanizing world.

Road Safety: Reclaiming the Roads for the People

This session was geared towards viewing road crashes as a human right and security concern that must be addressed and dealt with accordingly. The discussion ensued on the premise that one of the key issues affecting quality of environment and quality of life in our towns, villages and cities is road traffic and transportation. Hon. Esther Passaris, Woman Representative for Nairobi County discussed road safety and the role of government in ensuring safer roads for all users.

Bright Oywaya, the Executive Director of the Association for Safe International Road Travel-Kenya and Affiliated with the National Transport and Safety Authority spoke on her work on road safety at the Association for Safe International Road Travel and the work with National Transport and Safety Authority. Nyagah Georgekelvin, Director of Road Safety Volunteers, spoke on the role of civil society and how advocating for road safety through the Road Safety Volunteers in Kenya is leading the campaign to lead better road safety practices.

ADVOCACY AND OUTREACH

STORY TELLING FOR SOCIAL IMPACT

As part of the 16 days of activism against gender-based violence, Slum Festival, AMWIK, ASMO, Angaza Films and PAWA 254 held a film screening in which UN-Habitat joined in on the panel discussion on how in the public sector story telling can be utilized to make social impact. The animation video on Forced Evictions was screened as well for the general public.

THE GREEN SPACE FESTIVAL

The Green Space Festival was held on December 8th to celebrate the 70th anniversary of the Human Rights Declaration. The European Union in collaboration with its State Members and UN-Habitat championed Human Rights and specifically the right to safe and green spaces.

ANIMATION VIDEO ON PREVENTING FORCED EVICTIONS

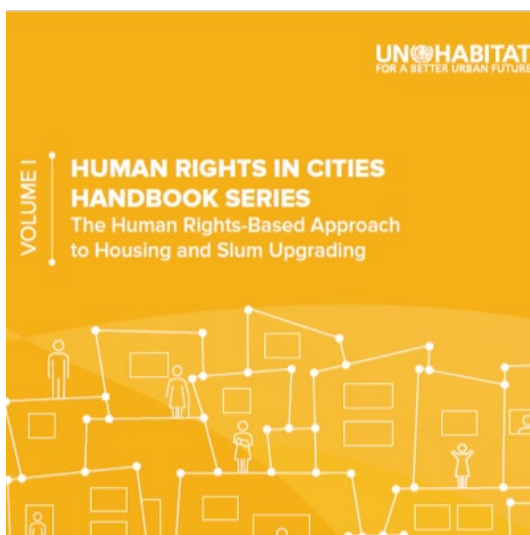
An advocacy video regarding forced evictions has been published which defines forced evictions, as well as articulates the several situations that can lead to evictions, i.e.: land grabbing, house demolitions, mega events, natural disasters inter alia. The video will also convey the way forced evictions also disproportionately affect vulnerable groups such as women, refugees, IDPs and children and serve to further marginalize and leave them behind.

The video culminates in practical steps that can be taken to prevent forced evictions, before, during and after.

KNOWLEDGE PRODUCTS

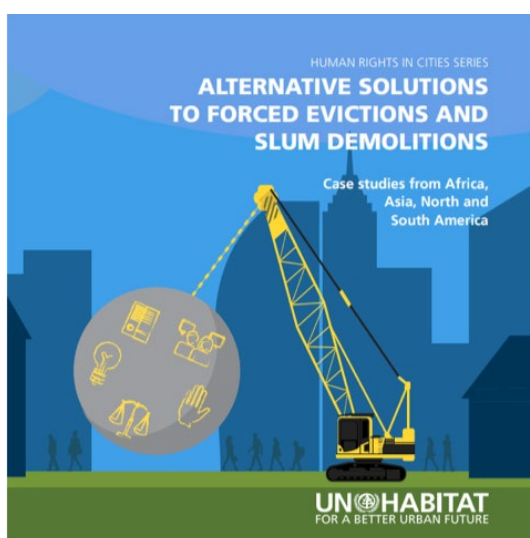
THE HUMAN RIGHTS-BASED APPROACH TO HOUSING AND SLUM UPGRADING

The Human Rights-Based Approach to Housing and Slum Upgrading Handbook provides housing and slum upgrading actors with the unique opportunity to strengthen their knowledge of how to develop inclusive and human rights-based housing and slum upgrading interventions that place people, human rights and adequate housing at the centre of urbanization. This Handbook addresses inequalities and discrimination, while prioritizing groups in vulnerable situations; thus, making important contribution to the realization of the United Nations 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development. It is also aligned with the call to leave no one behind in making cities and human settlements inclusive and sustainable. (649 downloads)



ALTERNATIVE SOLUTIONS TO FORCED EVICTIONS AND SLUM DEMOLITIONS

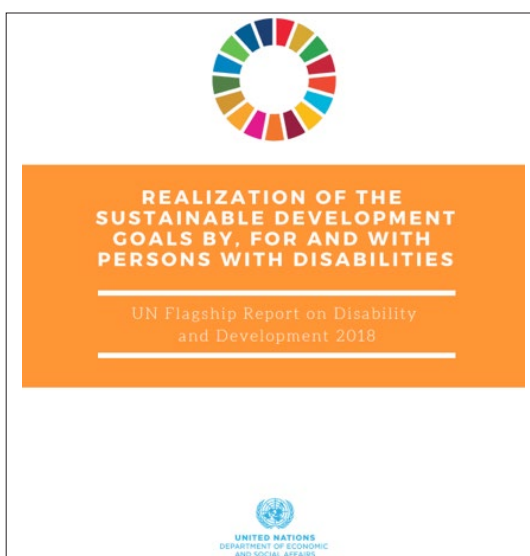
This publication focuses on the strategies used by both national and international actors, to combat forced evictions; especially, where public interests and fundamental individual human rights have been observed. It presents best practices of alternative solutions to forced evictions from four geographically and politically different countries in Africa, Asia, North and South America.



The featured case studies are from Brazil (South America), Philippines (Asia), Haiti (North America) and Kenya (Africa). While the strategies utilized may vary greatly depending on the country's socio-economic environment, the alternatives presented herein have improved urban prosperity. Therefore, they require great consideration and scaling up of the methodologies in other regions. (2,172 downloads)

UNITED NATIONS 2018 FLAGSHIP REPORT ON DISABILITY AND DEVELOPMENT

The purpose of the report is to contribute to the full and effective implementation of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development and enhance the current efforts to mainstream the needs, rights and perspectives of persons with disabilities into the process of achieving the Sustainable Development Goals at all levels. The report provides an overview of overall progress



towards the Goals and the implementation of the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities and presents good practices and policy

trends in the respective areas. It will be the first publication on disability and the Goals at the global level.

GLOBAL PROGRAMMES

CITIES COALITION FOR DIGITAL RIGHTS

The city of New York, Amsterdam and Barcelona formally came together to form the Cities Coalition for Digital Rights, with the support of UN-Habitat to protect and uphold human rights on the internet at the local and global level. As cities, the closest democratic institutions to the people, they committed to eliminating impediments to harnessing technological opportunities that improve the lives of our constituents, and to providing trustworthy and secure digital services and infrastructures that support our communities. The coalition aims to garner the commitment of more cities in 2019 to commit to the below-mentioned principles to work toward ensuring that human rights principles such as privacy, freedom of expression, and democracy must be incorporated by design into digital platforms starting with locally-controlled digital infrastructures and services. The cities in the coalition will share best practices, learn from each other's challenges and successes, and coordinate common initiatives and actions.

Inspired by the Internet Rights and Principles Coalition (IRPC), the work of 300 international stakeholders over the past ten years, the coalition is committed to the following five evolving principles:

- *Universal and equal access to the internet, and digital literacy. Everyone should have access to affordable and accessible internet*

and digital services on equal terms, as well as the digital skills to make use of this access and overcome the digital divide.

- *Privacy, data protection and security. Everyone should have privacy and control over their personal information through data protection in both physical and virtual places, to ensure digital confidentiality, security, dignity and anonymity, and sovereignty over their data, including the right to know what happens to their data, who uses it and for what purposes.*
- *Transparency, accountability, and non-discrimination of data, content and algorithms. Everyone should have access to understandable and accurate information about the technological, algorithmic and artificial intelligence systems that impact their lives, and the ability to question and change unfair, biased or discriminatory systems.*
- *Participatory Democracy, diversity and inclusion. Everyone should be represented on the internet, and collectively engage with the city through open, participatory and transparent opportunities to shape the technologies designed for them, including managing our digital infrastructures and data as a common good.*
- *Open and ethical digital service standards. Everyone should be able to use the technologies of their choice, and expect the same level of interoperability, inclusion and opportunity in their digital services. Cities should define their own technological infrastructures, services and agenda, through open and ethical digital service standards and data to ensure that they live up to this promise.*



REGIONAL AND COUNTRY PROGRAMMES

Mainstreaming Human Rights at country level entails reinforcing the Human Rights component as an operational activity across UN-Habitat's different focal areas of work.

SOMALIA

Phase II of the Human Rights Training at the youth centre in Mogadishu consisted of public forums and workshops on social and economic rights conducted to institutionalize human rights at the youth centre. This specifically entailed, 2 dialogue sessions: the first was aimed at launching the Human Rights Training manual and discussing with the youth leaders the human rights challenges they face vis a vis youth rights and employment. Subsequently, we held a brainstorm session on possible solutions and recommendations. We then carried out an advocacy exercise with the youth training them on how to constructively engage with the government on Human Rights and creating an action plan and road map for the recommendations and solutions they presented.

The second dialogue session was with youth and key government officials, where the youth got the opportunity to present to the Banadir government officials the key issues facing youth in Mogadishu vis a vis youth rights, employment and security. Subsequently, the officials expressed commitment on working together with the youth leaders to meet their proposed solutions and recommendations.

KENYA

Urban areas in Kenya have recorded significant growth and expansion in all sectors including public transport. The matatus in Kenya are highly commercialized and managed by the private sector within limited urban infrastructure. In the past decade, the matatu sector has recorded the highest amounts of reforms in diversification of investment, service delivery, safety, comfort, integration of technology and competitiveness. While the sector has expanded services to the young urban population and low-income dwellers, there are lost opportunities in offering equitable and well-coordinated public transport to older members of society and persons with disabilities (PWDs) inter alia.

The matatu services have been discriminatory

and less inclusive of the needs of the most vulnerable urban populations largely due to lack of policy framework and incentives for inclusivity. Moreover, drivers and conductors are not sensitized to the plight of these people given that there are reports that PWDs often wait at a bus stop for more than 3 hours with all matatus either shunning them or demanding that they pay twice the standard fare. This is worsened by the lack of integration of transport with national development priorities such as accessibility, safety, pedestrian walkways and special needs for mobility of older persons and those with disabilities. Evidently, there is a strong urgency to accommodate the needs of persons with disabilities within the public transport system in Nairobi. An inclusive public transport system and accessible streets are key factors that ensure that all residents have equal access to opportunities.

As part of a Human Rights awareness campaign in 2018 specifically geared towards the inclusion of persons with disabilities, the human rights team pioneered the first Matatu that is accessible by a wheelchair. The design resulted in 4 foldable seats - so that way the driver would still be able to carry the same number of passengers if a person with a wheelchair was not on board.





YOUTH



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YOUTH

INTRODUCTION

Globally, 85 per cent of the world's young people live in developing countries, and an ever-increasing number of them are growing up in cities. It is estimated that by 2030, as many as 60% of all urban dwellers will be under the age of 18. All over the world, young people are finding it increasingly difficult to break into the labour market. Youth make up 25% of the global working age population, but account for 43.7% of the unemployed. This means that almost every other jobless person in the world is between the ages of 15 and 24.

The exclusion from the economic, political, and

social life of their countries breeds disillusionment, hopelessness, and upheaval. Research has found links between youth unemployment and social exclusion, and suggests that this may lead to political and social instability, and possibly to violence. Action is required to achieve economic prosperity for, and the inclusion of, the youth. Although evidence shows that governments and cities are making efforts to tackle youth poverty and their lack of engagement in governance, resources to undertake such interventions are very limited. UN-Habitat recognizes the potential of the youth as a major force for creating a better urban future.

INTERNATIONAL FRAMEWORKS

The UN System-wide Action Plan on Youth (Youth SWAP) provides strategic guidance to the UN system as a whole in its work on youth within the framework of the World Programme of Action for Youth. The SWAP was developed by the Inter-Agency Network on Youth Development at a time when UN-Habitat held the chair jointly with UNDESA. The Youth SWAP was adopted by the Secretary-General in 2012 as part of his second five-year action plan. It provides an opportunity to promote joint programmatic work on youth development and to identify ways in which activities undertaken by individual entities can

complement each other.

The main aim of the Youth SWAP is to enhance the coherence and synergy of United Nations' system-wide activities in key areas related to youth development. It builds on the specific mandates, expertise and capacities of individual United Nations entities, pooling the strengths of the whole United Nations system and promoting joint programmatic work in the areas of employment, entrepreneurship, political inclusion, civic engagement and protection of rights and education.

STRUCTURE AND MANDATE

The mandate for youth as a cross-cutting issue for UN-Habitat is operationalized by the Youth and Livelihoods Unit—one of the longest standing youth programmes within the UN system—as per the following Governing Council (GC) resolutions on youth: 19/13 Enhancing the Engagement of Youth in the Work of UN-Habitat, 20/1 Youth and Human Settlements, 21/6 Urban Youth Development, 22/1 Strengthening the Development of Urban Young People, 23/7 Urban Youth Development: The Next Step. A report was done evaluating youth mainstreaming in UN-Habitat in 2012¹⁰, with a full evaluation done in 2014.

In the 20th Governing Council, UN-Habitat and Youth: Strategy For Enhanced Engagement was adopted which provided a forward-looking plan and framework for engaging in UN-Habitat. The objective of the strategy is to provide an integrated approach to urban youth development, which mainstreams a focus on the youth in the normative and operational activities of UN-Habitat, and strengthens the impact of the Agency's work in reducing urban poverty. It provides a road map for the promotion of urban youth empowerment and participation in the implementation of the Habitat Agenda and then related Millennium Development Goals.

10 Youth Empowerment for Urban Development: Mainstreaming Youth in UN-Habitat Programmes - <https://www.dropbox.com/s/4621xks0fxyI9qi/%20%20Youth%20Empowerment%20for%20Urban%20Development%20.pdf?dl=0>

In the strategy, UN-Habitat committed to developing, supporting and promoting initiatives, which contributed to:

- ▶ Mainstreaming youth as a cross-cutting element in the design and implementation of UN-Habitat programmes and priorities;
- ▶ Initiating and fostering inter-agency collaboration, as well as partnerships with young men and women's organizations, as vehicles for outreach and youth participation;
- ▶ Engaging youth concerns at an international level to help formulate an international understanding of pressing youth issues;
- ▶ Recognizing the diversities among young people, with a special focus on young women, and enhancing their participation in UN-Habitat's work so that young people's views and contributions are valued;
- ▶ Providing youth with the best-available information resources and facilities pertaining to employment, health, crime prevention, governance, gender equality and empowerment and youth rights and responsibilities; and
- ▶ Providing evidence-based approaches that show how effective integration of the youth in development strategies strengthens racial integration, inclusiveness and reliable impact.



MAINSTREAMING YOUTH AT UN-HABITAT

UN-Habitat seeks to ensure that youth have a place in initiatives implemented by the agency in order to enhance the awareness on youth. Youth are one of the key stakeholders in implementing sustainable urbanization as well as the society's most essential, dynamic and ambitious human resource. During 2018, UN-Habitat has enhanced its efforts in this regard, both externally with partners and internally through formalized mechanisms, awareness and capacity development for staff members, consultants and interns, aiming to institutionalize youth mainstreaming in all relevant areas for the agency.

UN-Habitat mainstreams youth in two different ways. First, it works directly with organs of the agency: branches, units and regional and country offices and through the Project Advisor Group in the application of the YM—in a process of conducting a youth sensitive analysis in the conceptualization phase of initiatives, taking

into account youth interests and needs aiming at decreasing societal inequalities. The primary focus of planned activities should assure that youth interests have been accounted for in order to ensure there are no negative impacts on youth as a consequence of UN-Habitat's intervention.

Second, UN-Habitat mainstreams youth through joint youth programmes within UN-Habitat and across the UN system. This allows the sharing of expertise with the different programmes of UN-Habitat. Some examples of this have been the Youth and Land programme, a joint programme of the Youth Unit and the GLTN; the Mogadishu One Stop programme, where the Youth Unit has supported the Somali programme to develop a One Stop in Mogadishu; and the Asia Pacific Urban Forum on Youth, where the Youth Unit and the Regional Office for Asia-Pacific jointly co-hosted a youth event in the lead up to the Habitat III.

ADVOCACY AND OUTREACH

INTER-AGENCY NETWORK ON YOUTH DEVELOPMENT (IANYD)

In 2018, UN-Habitat was instrumental in providing overall leadership and strategic direction on youth issues across the UN system, as co-chairs of the Inter-Agency Network on Youth Development. The network consists of UN entities, represented primarily at the headquarters level, whose work is relevant to youth. The aim of the Network is to increase the effectiveness of UN work in youth development by strengthening collaboration and exchange among all relevant UN entities, while respecting and harnessing the benefits of their individual strengths and unique approaches and mandates.

YOUTH DECLARATION AT THE SUSTAINABLE BLUE ECONOMY CONFERENCE

In preparation for the Global Blue Economy Conference, held in Nairobi in November 2018, UN-Habitat organized the Youth and the Blue Economy Conference, culminating in the Youth DeclarACTION. 300 young men and women gather to discuss their priorities for the Blue Economy. The DeclarACTION was agreed upon and presented to world leaders at the conference.

Speaking on the second day of the Sustainable Blue Economy Conference, UN Under-Secretary-General and Executive Director of UN-Habitat, Ms. Maimunah Mohd Sharif urged national and regional governments, mayors, regional development organizations, UN entities and development partners to examine the findings of the UN-Habitat Youth DeclarACTION and adopt its recommendations. In her keynote speech delivered at the Governors and Mayors Convention, Ms. Sharif praised the creative and action-oriented recommendations in the document adopted.

WORLD URBAN FORUM

As convenor of the world's largest urban event, UN-Habitat provides a platform for young men and women to engage with global urban leaders. Youth featured prominently throughout the forum, including the 'Children and Youth Assembly' – attended by over 500 young people and providing strong and clear recommendations for global leaders. Other public events included the 'Children and Youth Roundtable' which saw a global gathering of young people working together to prioritise urban issues and provide innovative solutions.

ECOSOC YOUTH FORUM

IN 2018, the forum focused on the role of youth in building sustainable and resilient urban and rural communities. It welcomed a record number of ministers, government officials, youth delegates and youth representatives. Participants discussed the international community's commitment to learning from young people and strategies to include active participation by youth in the implementation of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development and New Urban Agenda.

At the Forum, UN-Habitat Executive Director, Maimunah Mohd Sharif, made a call for national and local governments to continue to invest in the potential of youth globally: "Today, we face unprecedented urban, social and environmental challenges. From climate change to radicalization, youth are often at the front lines facing these problems. They are our hope and our future in assuring that we can find solutions."

GLOBAL COALITION ON YOUTH PEACE AND SECURITY

As the leading UN agency on urban development within the UN system, UN-Habitat plays a key role in the Global Coalition on Youth Peace and Security. The Coalition consists of COS's, youth-led organization, NGO's and UN entities. The goal of the coalition is to advocate for global peace and security and the implement the YPS agenda in partnership with local and international actors. UN-Habitat is specifically leading work on developing key performance indicators to measure progress on youth peace and security and creating a network of champion cities on Youth Peace and Security.

73RD GENERAL ASSEMBLY: UN-HABITAT COMMITS TO LOCALIZING THE YOUTH, PEACE AND SECURITY AGENDA

Across the globe, one in four youths is affected by armed conflict or organized violence. Many more are stereotyped as perpetrators and at-risk individuals. Yet, if given the opportunity, youth can be key partners in building peace.

This was a key message at the side event co-hosted by UN-Habitat and the Government of Canada in early October. In what was a significant 73rd United Nations General Assembly for youth worldwide, the side event explored how to involve

young people in peacebuilding on a local level.

The event's roundtable reflected on learnings from the first joint participatory study between the World Bank, UN-Habitat and UN Somalia titled *Youth as Agents of Peace: Somalia*. The Study highlights how Somali youths can foster peace and prevent conflict – a subject which has rarely been analyzed before.

Somalia faces a range of challenges as the country emerges from civil war. More than half the population – 70% of which is under the age of 30. Youth unemployment stands at 75% and is thought to expose young Somalis to illegal migration, organized crime and violent extremism.

"Unemployment is a major problem, but underneath that is hopelessness and a belief that there is no fairness," says a young Somali woman who participated in the study. "Young people get angry and frustrated."

Forty-seven young women and men from Afgoye and Mogadishu participated in the study. Their views helped set out recommendations and a framework for engaging youth in peacebuilding.



KNOWLEDGE PRODUCTS

YOUTH 2030: THE UN YOUTH STRATEGY

UN-Habitat played a key role in writing and developing ‘Youth 2030: UN Youth Strategy’, the first strategic document on youth engagement across the UN system. The strategy is ambitious. It will guide the UN system in stepping up support for the empowerment of young people, while ensuring that the Organization’s work fully benefits from their insights and ideas.

Investment in four areas will consolidate the position of the United Nations as a global leader in engaging with youth. It will become a pioneer of knowledge, a dynamic source of innovation, a catalyst for solutions and a champion of accountability. The strategy’s thematic priority areas reflect all three pillars of the UN system:

sustainable development, peace and security, and human rights.

THE MISSING PEACE: INDEPENDENT PROGRESS STUDY ON YOUTH, PEACE AND SECURITY

UN-Habitat produced the first joint country participatory study in partnership with the World Bank and UN Somalia, which contributed to “The Missing Peace: Independent Progress Study on Youth, Peace and Security” one of the key outcomes from UN Security Council Resolution 2250. This document is an independent study demonstrating young people’s positive role in sustaining peace. It proposes concrete recommendations for the peace and security community to work with young people in new ways.

GLOBAL PROGRAMMES

ONE-STOP CENTRES

Since the first One-Stop Centre was established in Nairobi, Kenya in 2003, UN-Habitat has worked with local and national authorities in Tanzania, Uganda, Rwanda, Nigeria, Ethiopia, Eritrea, Sierra Leone, Afghanistan, Democratic Republic of Congo, Somalia and Palestine to develop urban centres for children and youth. The local and national authorities that request assistance to implement the One Stop model recognize that young people comprise a major proportion of their urban populations. They know that educational opportunities, jobs, self-employment, homes, and basic services must be found for this large and growing population segment. Complicating their efforts is the fact that young people are often the most socially and economically marginalized urban inhabitants.

The rapid development of these cities means their urban infrastructure is already under pressure. However, leaving young people to the margins risks ever-greater social alienation. That is why investments in young people’s livelihoods need to be made when they are at the life stage at which they can absorb and utilize them most productively.

National and local governments are increasingly looking for solutions that might be a bridge between the transitional period of

“youth” and socially integrated, economically productive citizens. The establishment of One Stop Youth Resource Centres in urban areas is one such measure that bridges both policy and programming on youth development.

The One Stop model starts from the “youth as assets” premise, which holds that youth are a source of cultural and economic dynamism. This approach contrasts with the traditional “youth needs” perspective that views them through the lens of costs, problems and dangers. This asset based approach, or Asset Based Community Development,¹ views policies to establish One Stops not as bandage solutions consuming scarce resources, but as investments into human capital assets.

For example, the Mathare Environmental Centre in Nairobi was first established in the early 2000s and entered the UN-Habitat One Stop accreditation programme to align itself with the global standards developed by UN-Habitat for urban youth public space and youth centres.

Mathare Environmental provides the following services: ICT training, recreation services (football pitch, gym), community governance space, which is often used by a local women’s group, enterprise start up space and a feeding programme for street girls and boys. The One Stop services 300 young women and men per day and provides food

for 400 street children three times a week. The football pitch is the only active public spaces in Mlango Kubwa, particularly by the local women's team. The pitch is also used by a local enterprise called Mathare Empire for concerts and events.

THE URBAN YOUTH FUND

The UN-Habitat Urban Youth Fund empowers global youth by providing grants and capacity building to selected organizations in developing countries. Yearly, more than 8,000 youth-led organizations start the application process to be part of the program. Approximately 30 organizations are selected yearly to receive a grant up to 25,000 USD and capacity building support throughout the duration of the project. These organizations span various sectors, from technology and agriculture to education and poverty reduction. Every year, the Fund supports

new and innovative ideas and solutions for job creation, good governance, adequate shelter and secure tenure planned and implemented by youth-led groups globally. By undertaking research on best practices in youth-led development the fund also creates greater awareness of youth-led development and the urgency to ensure that youth perspectives are integrated into local, national and international development policies and strategies. Applicants organizations must be led by young people aged 15-32 years and be based in cities or towns in developing countries to qualify for a grant. Support in terms of training, mentorship and the E- Learning programs is provided primarily for. Projects encouraging gender equality or involving partnerships with the government or the private sector are particularly encouraged.

REGIONAL AND COUNTRY PROGRAMMES

SAUDI ARABIA

UN-Habitat worked with the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia through the development of the Future Saudi Cities Programme (FSCP) in 17 cities of the Kingdom. The overall aim of the programme was to provide assistance and build capacities of local planning constituencies to ensure the effective implementation of both national and subnational planning initiatives.

The Youth Programme was achieved through "Output 3: Enhanced individual and institutional capacities for managing sustainable urbanization nationally, regionally, and locally." This work built capacity of young people to engage in their communities and their cities. It also demonstrated to local and national authorities the benefit of working with young men and women and brought the two groups together in a constructive dialogue.

The key achievements of the Youth Programme included:

- ▶ *'You are Here' Training. Engaged 30 young professionals 25-35, from across 17 different cities, in public space design and the importance of inclusive urban planning and governance.*
- ▶ *'Future Urban Planners' Training. Engaged 57 children aged 11-13, using the platform*

Minecraft to engage young adolescents in public space design.

- ▶ *Saudi 'Urban Labs'. Engaged 30 young people aged 20-25 in southern Saudi Arabia, through a technical programme on urban design and planning.*
- ▶ *State of Women and Youth in Saudi Report. The Report presented the current priorities of youth in Saudi Arabia, developed through social media analysis, interviews and workshops.*
- ▶ *Parklets Competition. An open call for urban design students to design their own Parklets, with the winning design being built and used in Riyadh. 6 teams submitted proposals.*

Through these initiatives, UN-Habitat empowered Youth in Saudi cities, engaging them in urban governance and enhancing their leadership skills. Furthermore, the programme demonstrated the positive impact that youth can have in their cities and engaged local and national authorities in dialogue with young men and women.

