

Experiences on Housing for All and Informal Settlements in Latin America and the Caribbean

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the Caribbean



UN-HABITAT



Some background

LAC will become the **world's most urbanized region by 2050**: Over **89%** urban population (up from 81% today).

Urban face of poverty in LAC

• **73%** of people in poverty and **68%** of people in extreme poverty live in cities

HOUSING

Will demand for **65M** new units and **40%** additional urban land by 2050.

Economic Impact of cities

• Cities >200,000 people generate **60%** of LAC's GDP.

Key concepts and approach

New Urban Agenda

Adequate Housing

Right to the City

Social and ecological function of land

Integrated approach to housing/informal settlements

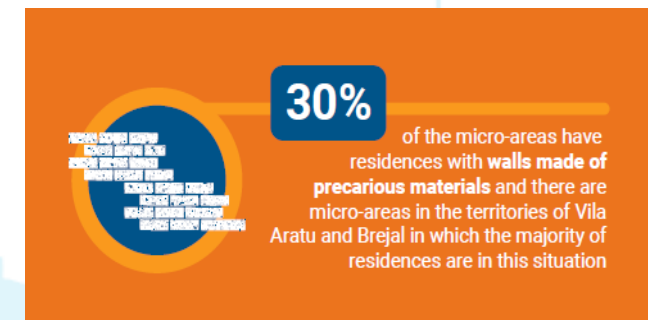
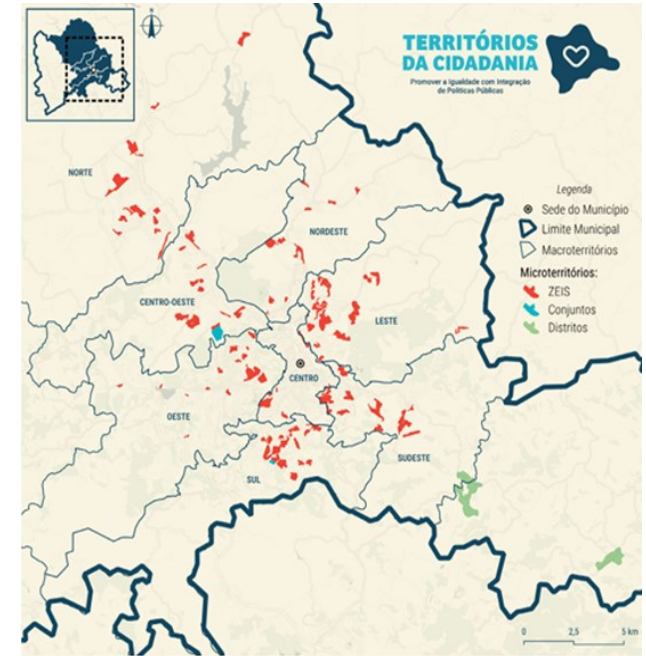


Value chain of urban sustainable development and adequate housing

- a) Data
- b) Multilevel policies/strategies/plans
- c) Integrated Solutions/Adequate Housing-Urban Projects and interventions
- d) Financial structuring/SDG-Social Impact Investment
- e) Coalitions



- The methodology was developed in partnership with the **Pereira Passos Institute (IPP) of Rio de Janeiro City Hall**.
- It consists of a qualitative survey to diagnose the conditions of urban infrastructure and the quality of public services in informal settlements. The **main areas** of research focus on urban infrastructure, **housing**, transportation, and public services.
- It was implemented in more than 200 favelas in Rio, more than 100 *grotas* of Maceió and in 141 favelas in Juiz de Fora.
- It is conducted through **fieldwork to collect primary data**, which involves observing the territory and conducting brief interviews with residents. By standardizing indicators, it is possible to compare different territories and establish priorities for urban interventions by public authorities.
- One of the evaluated topics is **housing standards**, which examines the structures of construction, as well as density, verticalization, and land use (e.g., residential, commercial, mixed, etc.).

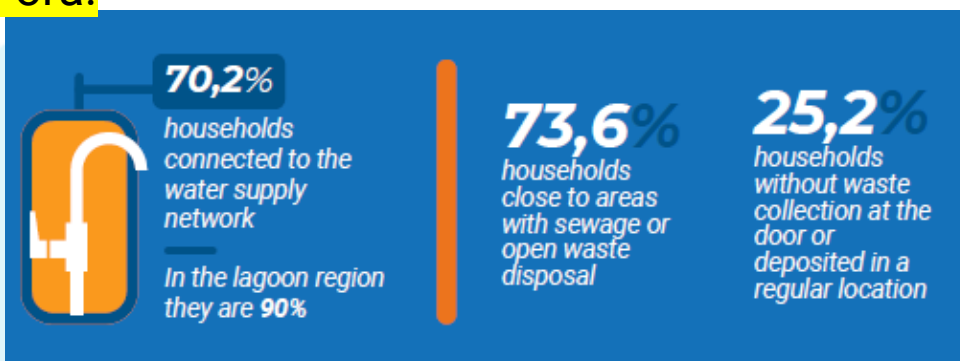
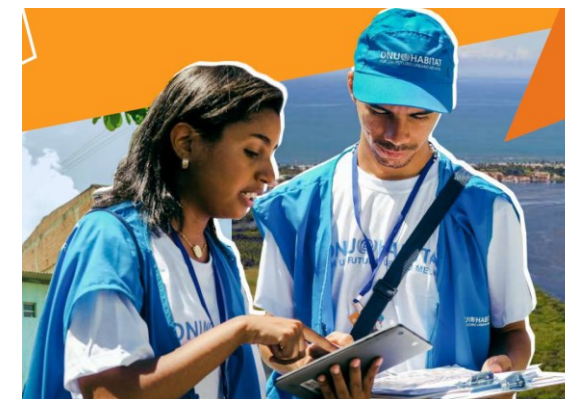




a) Data

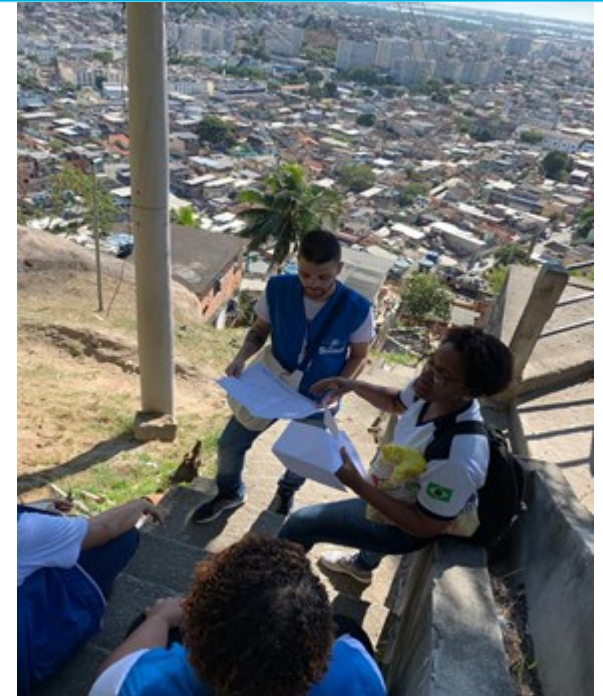
Socioeconomic Profile - Brazil

- The socioeconomic profiles derived from household surveys that collect traditional indicators at the settlement level while capturing residents' notions of their neighbourhoods.
- It is a household survey by sampling that seeks to understand the main demographic and socioeconomic characteristics of the population, as well as their perception of public service provision and their quality of life in these areas.
- To achieve this, it addresses topics such as education, income, employment, sports, culture, leisure, access to public services, housing, health, violence, and others.
- It was implemented in more than **100 grotas of Maceió** and in **141 informal settlements in Juiz de Fora.**



Active search of invisible people in favelas RJ - Brazil

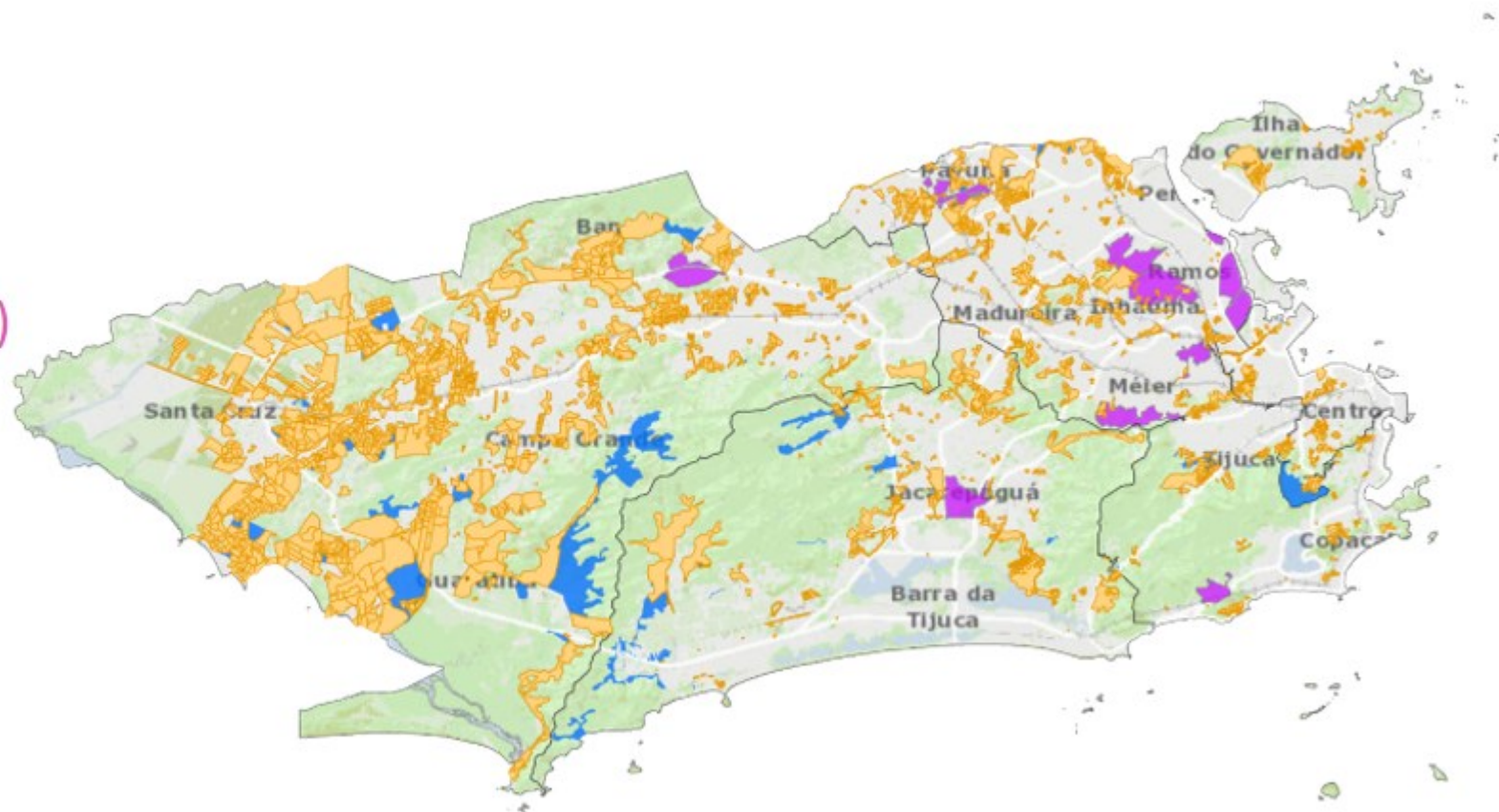
- Implemented by **Rio de Janeiro City Hall**, in partnership with **UN-Habitat**, the programme aims to **reduce the multidimensional poverty and social risk of “invisible” families**, identifying their vulnerability and promoting their right to the city.
- The objective is to have every vulnerable slum dweller in Rio de Janeiro integrated in the municipal social protection system.
- The integrated actions involve the following areas: social assistance, health, education, **housing**, work and culture.
- The programme won the sixth edition of the **Governarte competition: the art of good government - Eduardo Campos Award**, in the "innovative services for vulnerable communities" category. The award is promoted by the Inter-American Development Bank (IDB).
- Recognition in the publication of the **Atlas - Latin America and the Caribbean (17 Sustainable Development Initiatives)** by the French Development Agency.





a) Data

Active search of “invisible” families Rio de Janeiro Brazil



Inventory of informal settlements in Central America

Methodology

Application of the model
by city

Analysis of post-
processing results

Participatory strategy for
review of results

Mapping and generation
of PA inventory DBs

Approximation of the
number of dwellings per
PA





a) Data

Urban Inclusion Marker - Andean Countries

➤ Inclusive Cities, Communities of Solidarity- URBAN INCLUSION MARKER

It measures the level of inclusion of a city and its potential contribution to integration, in terms of facilitating access to goods, services and opportunities to all citizens, in line with the notion of the "**right to the city**" and the **fundamentals recommended by the NAU of a prosperous and inclusive city**.

A city with an ideal inclusion marker (100 points) is where there is universal access to the right to the city measured through **5 key areas**:



Affordable quality housing and services

Adequate housing, with basic services, affordable and with security of tenure.



Employment and economic opportunities

Access to livelihoods and adequate employment by taking advantage of territorial assets and promoting innovation and entrepreneurship.



Health and wellbeing

Access to health systems, access to social security and adequate environmental conditions and gender gaps.



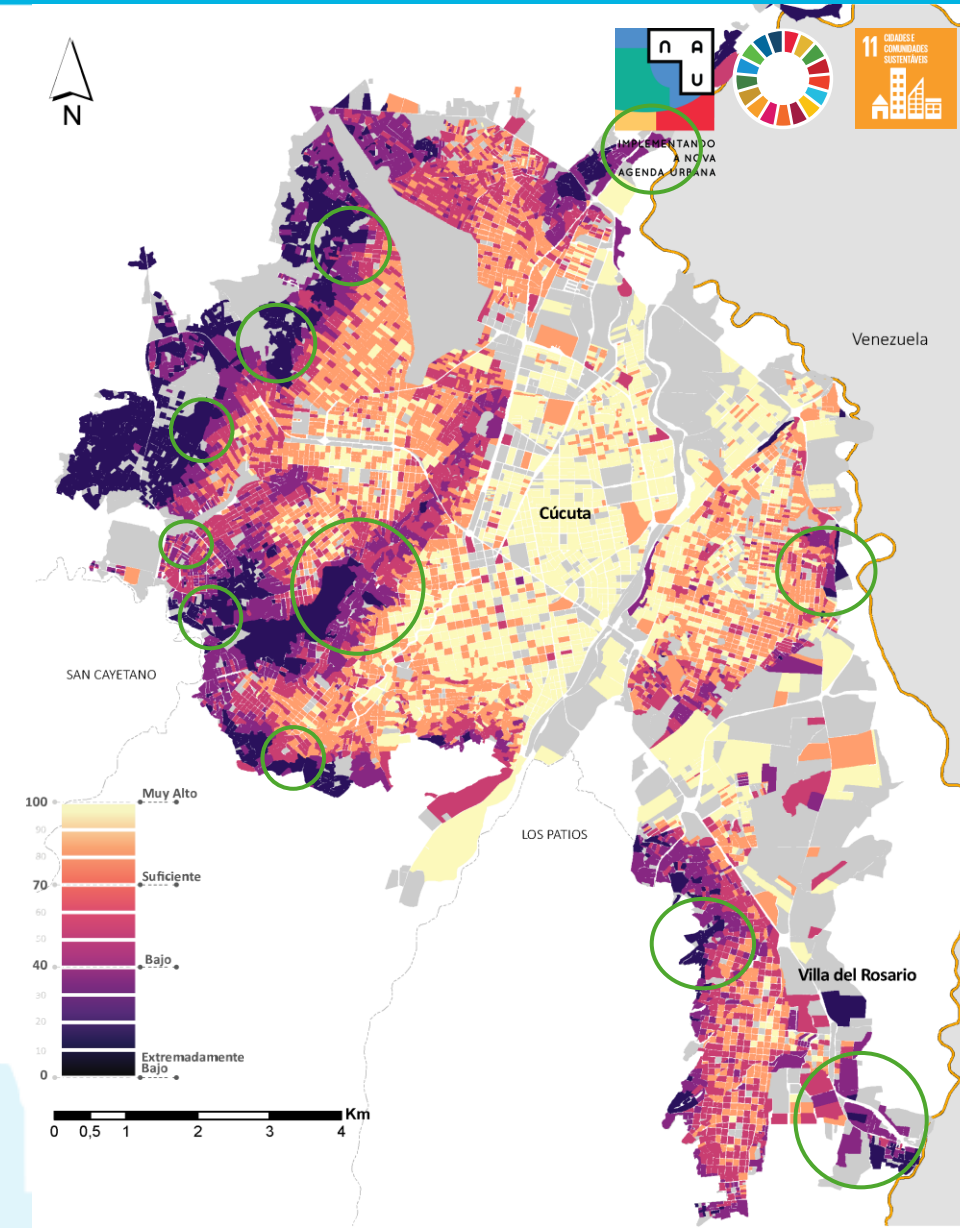
Education, culture and diversity

Access to education and gender gaps, as well as the promotion of innovation around cultural diversity.



Public space, safety, vibrant urban environment

Access to dynamic urban environments with high urban quality and safety.





b) Policy/Plans

National Urban Policy, housing, informal settlements - Central America (8 countries)

Programa regional “Contribución a la implementación de la Nueva Agenda Urbana y la recuperación pospandémica en Centroamérica y República Dominicana”



Generación de datos y evidencias.



Apoyo a las Políticas Nacionales Urbanas.



Desarrollo de capacidades.



Asesoría sobre políticas públicas urbanas alineadas con ODS, NAU.



Mejoramiento de barrios participativo.



Implementación del Cities Investment Facility (CIF).



b) Policies/Plans

National Urban Policy - Honduras

Developed in collaboration and alliance with :

- Secretariat of Governance, Justice and Decentralization of Honduras (SGJD)
- Secretariat for Strategic Planning and timely support from the Public Policy Directorate (SPE).
- Housing and Human Settlements Program (PNVAH / CONVIVIENDA))



Support and exchanges with:

- INOTU, CUBA
- SEDATU, México
- PLGS, ONU-Habitat



18 participatory workshops carried out + National Urban Forum of Honduras



Participantes: National and municipal government officials, academia, NGOs, international cooperation, businessmen, civil society, among others.



Products generated

- Collection of information on urban development in Honduras and participatory processes.
- 5 documents generated on feasibility, diagnosis, formulation, implementation, evaluation and monitoring.
- Input document / Draft of the **NUP Honduras aligned to the Public Policy Formulation Guide of Honduras, the SDGs and the NUA.**
- Proposed roadmap for the implementation of the PNU



b) Policies/Plans

National Urbanism, Housing and Habitat Policy, Paraguay

- The **National Urbanism, Housing and Habitat Policy** was approved in January 2024 and incorporates rights and guarantees related to quality of life, the right to adequate housing and a healthy environment.
- **The phase 2 of this project aims to strengthen the capacities of national and local governments** to formulate and implement evidence-based and participatory housing policies and strategies to support the implementation of SDG 11.
- **Deliverables and Tangible Results:**
 - i) Technical assistance to align the National Urbanism, Housing and Habitat Policy to the New Urban Agenda and SDGs which supported its finalization and approval in early 2024
 - ii) Evaluation of the PLANAVI (previous national housing plan) and the
 - iii) Elaboration of Terms of Reference for the National Housing, Urbanism and Habitat Plan 2030, which are now being implemented by the NUPP 2 project (see below in Ongoing Projects).



PRESIDENCIA DE LA REPÚBLICA DEL PARAGUAY
MINISTERIO DE URBANISMO, VIVIENDA Y HÁBITAT

DECRETO N° 1110.-

POR EL CUAL SE APRUEBA LA POLÍTICA NACIONAL DE URBANISMO, VIVIENDA Y HÁBITAT DEL PARAGUAY Y SE ESTABLECE QUE EL MINISTERIO DE URBANISMO, VIVIENDA Y HÁBITAT LA IMPLEMENTARÁ A TRAVÉS DE SUS PLANES, PROGRAMAS Y PROYECTOS.

Asunción, 26 de enero de 2024

ANTECEDENTES

Con el apoyo de ONU-Hábitat a través del Proyecto Fortalecimiento de las Capacidades de los gobiernos nacionales y locales para formular e implementar políticas y estrategias de vivienda participativas y basadas en evidencia, se acordó una Asistencia Técnica para el alineamiento de la Política Nacional de Vivienda y Hábitat de Paraguay (PNUVH) con los Objetivos de Desarrollo Sostenible (ODS), la Nueva Agenda Urbana (NAU) y el Plan Nacional de Desarrollo 2030 (PND).

- **Inclusive Cities, Communities of Solidarity- Public policy advisory for local and national governments to promote adequate housing for all**

Generación espacios con **Socios Estratégicos** para la socialización de la ampliación programa SDP



Se expidió el Decreto 057/ 2021 mediante el cual se permite otorgar el **Subsidio Familiar de Vivienda en la modalidad de arriendo a población migrante**

MARCO NORMATIVO DEL PROGRAMA DE ARRIENDO PARA MIGRANTES

Decreto 1077 de 2015, adicionado por el **Decreto 057 de 2021**

permite regular la articulación del subsidio familiar de vivienda en la modalidad de **arrendamiento para población migrante venezolana**

Resolución 0262 de 2021

reglamenta el artículo 2.1.1.6.9.5 del Decreto 1077 de 2015, adicionado por el Decreto 057 de 2021, en lo referente a la **determinación de los ingresos** para acceder al Subsidio Familiar de Vivienda en la modalidad de arrendamiento para población migrante

Resolución

reglamenta el artículo 2.1.1.6.9.6 del Título 1 de la Parte 1 del Libro 2 del Decreto 1077 de 2015, en lo referente a la **focalización territorial** para acceder al Subsidio Familiar de Vivienda en la modalidad de arrendamiento para población migrante

The proposal for the decree was successfully formulated, and support was provided to the Ministry of Housing, City, and Territory of Colombia to promote the flexibilization of the “Programa de Semilleros” aimed at Venezuelan migrant households with family incomes of up to two minimum wages. Additionally, the strategy was supported through socialization exercises and collaboration with local governments was established

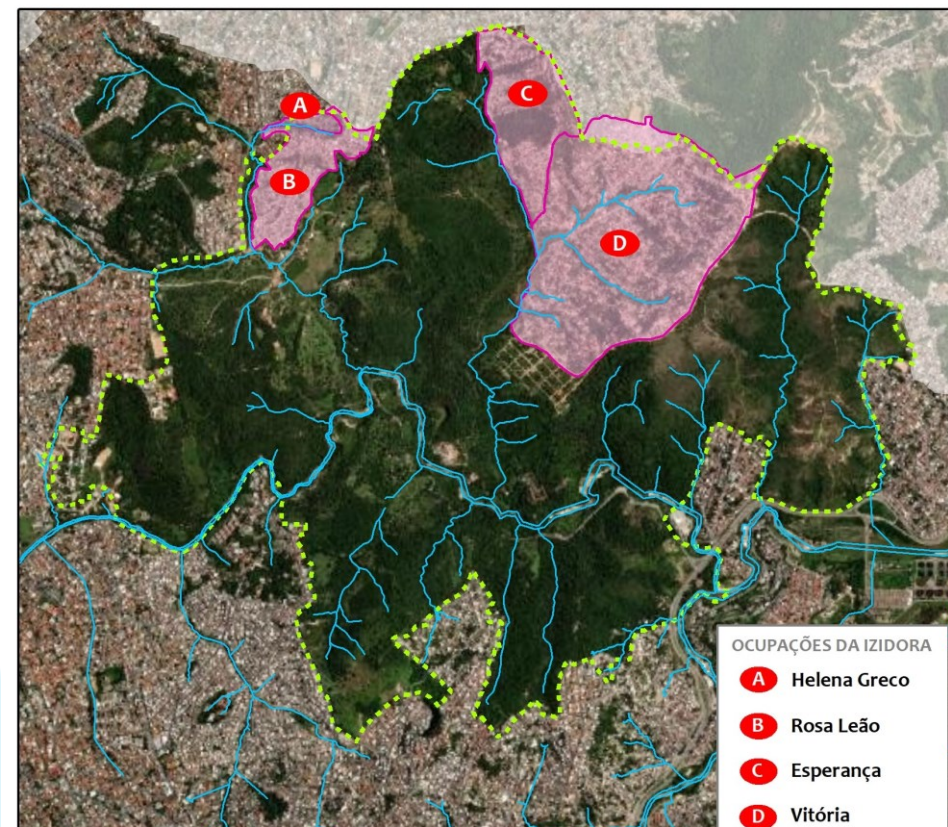
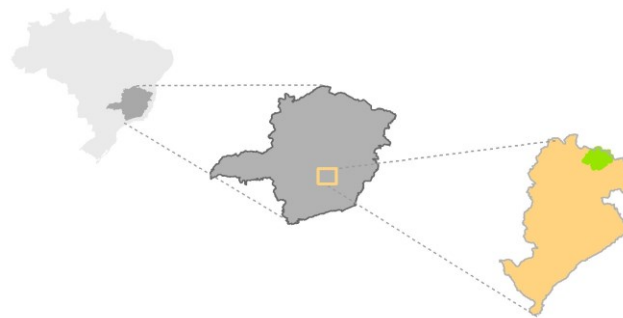
Guidelines for Housing Policy in Alagoas, Brazil

- The Guidelines were drawn up based on a **diagnosis** of the housing sector and are made up of **actionable strategies** that seek to promote **urban and housing improvements** in the state, especially in its favelas and urban communities.
- The **methodology** included seminars, technical meetings, field visits, rounds of dialogues, interviews with members of the public authorities, the private sector and civil society, as well as analysis of state and municipal housing plans and primary and secondary sources from the housing and urban sector in Alagoas.
- The **diagnosis** presented the most relevant points of Alagoas' urban network and its housing needs; the institutional structure and the state's urban and housing programs; and the state's challenges and potential.
- The **main challenge for Alagoas** is to structure an urban, housing and sanitation policy that maximizes its potential, despite its limitations. To this end, **principles, premises and objectives** were developed organized in **four structuring axes and five programmatic lines**.



Izidora Urbanization Plan – Belo Horizonte, Brazil

- Implemented by the **Municipality of Belo Horizonte**, in partnership with **UN-Habitat and UNOPS**.
- The Plan is one of the fronts of PRO-Izidora, which objective is to ensure that the population of Izidora has safe and sustainable **access to community infrastructure and affordable housing** by developing strategic and action plans in Izidora. These efforts aim to promote prosperity and sustainable development in the city while respecting environmental quality and human well-being.
- It is the first urbanization plan for an informal settlement in Belo Horizonte to place **urban resilience at its core**. It highlights the urgency of demystifying climate debates and pursuing practical solutions.





b) Policy/Plans

Izidora Urbanization Plan, Brazil

- This collection of plans and studies represents a holistic approach to urbanization in the Izidora settlements, combining technical precision, community involvement, and sustainable practices to create a resilient and inclusive urban environment.
- The project featured a strong participatory component, aiming to better meet the expectations of the local population.
- Two Plans were selected by the Federal Government and received **250 million reais** to be implemented in areas that will have the greatest transformation and **reconstruction of housing**.

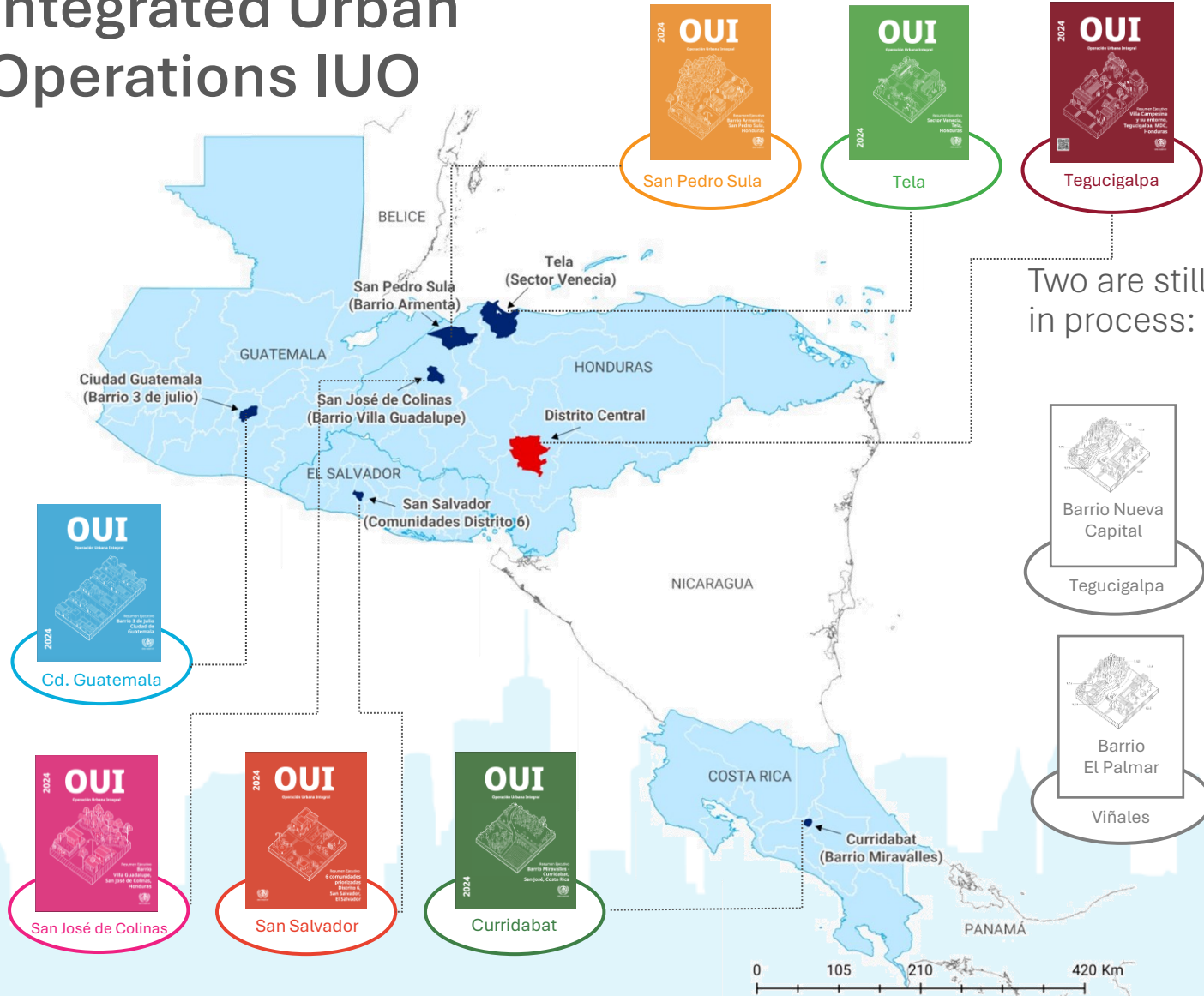




c) Integrated Solutions

Integrated Urban Operations Central America

Integrated Urban Operations IUO



Two are still in process:



The OUI methodology puts at its core a portfolio of programs that together amount to close to **50 strategic programs**



The direct beneficiaries of the programs are about :

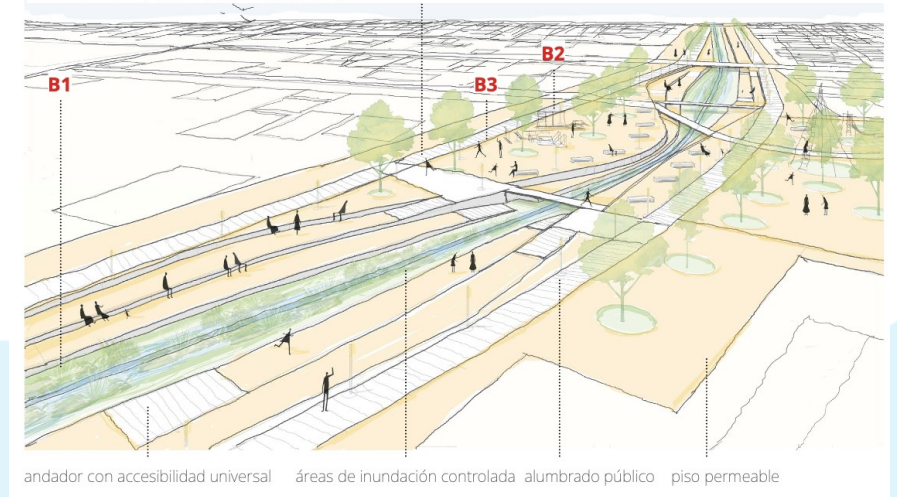
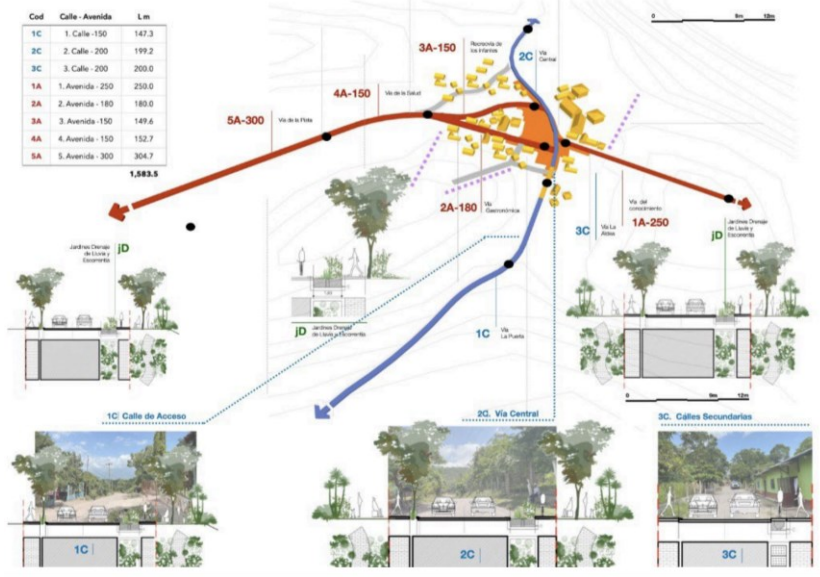
- 24 000 Homes**
- 100 000 Persons**
- 32 000 Boys and girls (0-14 years)**



c) Integrated Solutions

Integrated Urban Operations Central America

Integrated Urban Operations IUO



andador con accesibilidad universal áreas de inundación controlada alumbrado público piso permeable



c) *Integrated Solutions*

Integrated Urban Operations Central America

A methodology adaptable to a wide variety of urban contexts

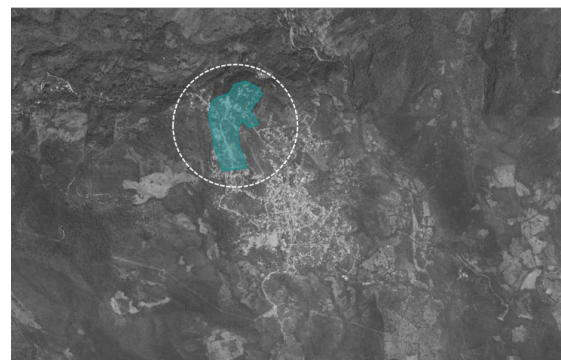


The IUO conceives the settlement as an ideal functional unit to structure and trigger an urban transformation.



Barrio Armenta, San Pedro Sula, Honduras

Consolidated settlement of urban character and of average precariousness.



Barrio Villa Guadalupe, San José de Colinas, Honduras

Consolidated rural settlement of medium and low density. Medium and high precariousness.



Sector Venecia, Tela, Honduras

Sector made up of 22 neighborhoods and colonies, peripheral and unconsolidated of urban character and low precariousness.



c) Integrated Solutions

Integrated Urban Operations Central America

OUI Armenta
San Pedro Sula, Honduras



Community brings art to
Armenta's bleachers



Before



Community in action



c) Integrated Solutions

Integrated Urban Operations Central America

OUI Villa Guadalupe
San José de Colinas, Honduras



Field built in conjunction with central government



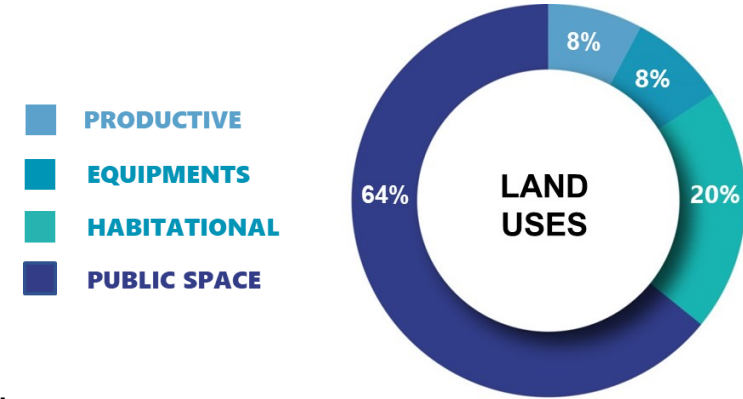
➤ Housing at the center of Integrated Urban Operations

- Integrated Urban Operations have been developed in **Manabí, Santa Marta, and Cali**, each with a distinct approach but considering Housing as the fundamental axis of the urban project.
- The Operations are understood as urban intelligence exercises in strategic areas of the city that promote transformation and renewal mechanisms.
- The main focus of the Operations is the establishment of urban centers where **mixed uses and inclusive public spaces** are established.
- The IUO propose a methodology where diverse population groups can coexist under the establishment of differentiated housing typologies.
- The IUO **propose the development of city pieces where housing is accompanied by services, equipment and employment.**



➤ Integrated Urban Operation in Santa Marta Colombia, Pozos Colorados

- Centrality proposed in the southern end of the city, where the possibility of implementing tourism services that enhance the productive vocation of the city is established.
- New urban focus based on sustainable tourism that articulates the natural assets of the city and the region.
- Establishment of a medium-density city model that prioritizes pedestrians and public transportation.
- Urban strip that will implement ecological corridors to maintain the connection between the components of the Sierra Nevada and the Caribbean Sea.
- Despite the focus on tourism, the IUO proposes housing components, since the establishment of housing uses is fundamental when focusing on the creation of a new centrality.
- A housing model focused on the new needs of the market, the communities and the territory is established, first establishing housing with a focus on the adult population, as well as coliving and sustainable housing typologies.
- 20% of the available land will be used for housing.



OUI DETONATING AREA : 41,45 Has
PUBLIC LAND AREA : 39,80 Has



c) Integrated Solutions Habitat Social Production

➤ Inclusive Cities, Communities of Solidarity

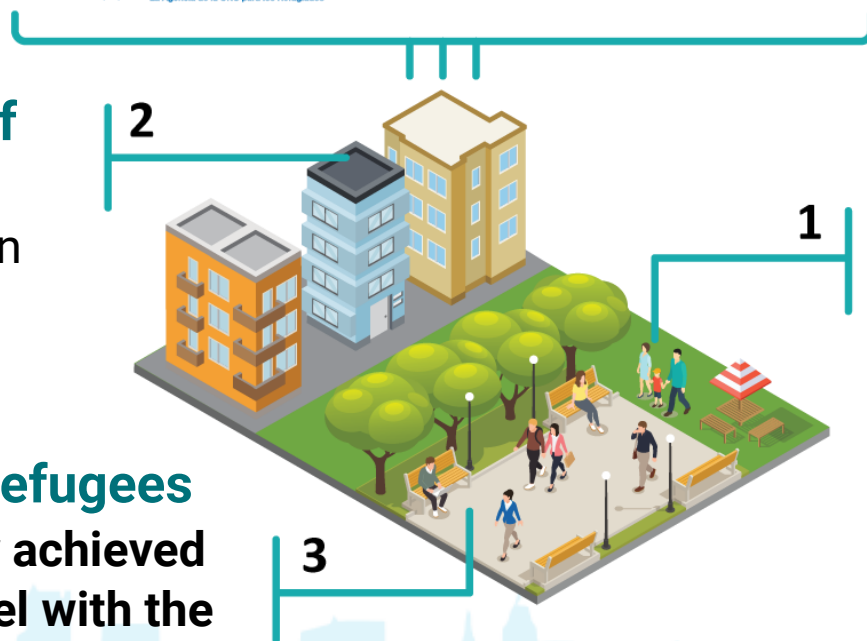


UNIÓN EUROPEA



- ✓ **Integrated approach**
Social Production of Habitat as the ideal platform for integration and social cohesion

The integration of refugees and migrants is only achieved if it advances in parallel with the added level of inclusion of the city and its communities



- ✓ **Humanitarian and development Nexus**
Transform the biggest challenge of migration into opportunities to the cities:
More Effective Integration (Right to the city) = More Prosperity for everyone

Through the notion of the right to the city to advance access to rights, services and opportunities overcoming all forms of segregation, allowing to unlock the positive contribution of people in human mobility.



c) Urban Interventions

Urban Community interventions to improve socio economic integration of migrants Andean Countries



Urban practical interventions in informal neighborhoods

- **44 public spaces** have been transformed through Tactical Urbanism actions: short-term, low-cost, community-built, and high-impact initiatives, especially in informal neighborhoods.
- **Local governments** in Cúcuta, Villa del Rosario, Barranquilla in Colombia, Lima in Peru, Quito and Manta in Ecuador, San Cristóbal and Bocachica in Dominican Republic, Chaguanas in Trinidad & Tobago and La Chorrera in Panama **have supported the interventions.**
- **Hundreds of Venezuelans and members of host communities engaged** in the design and construction of these spaces
- Muralism, Safe routes to school, Community Centers, Sports fields, open classrooms, etc..

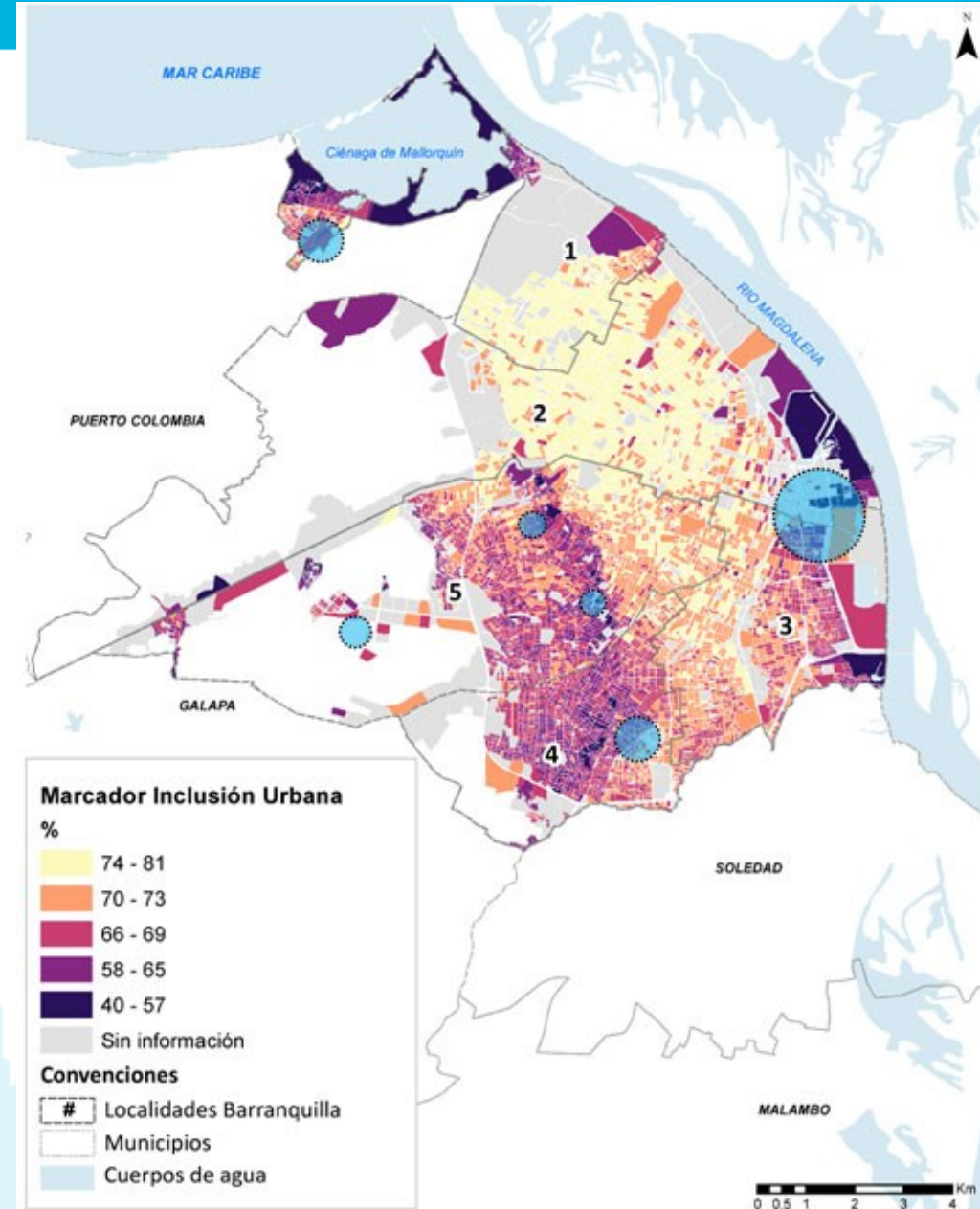
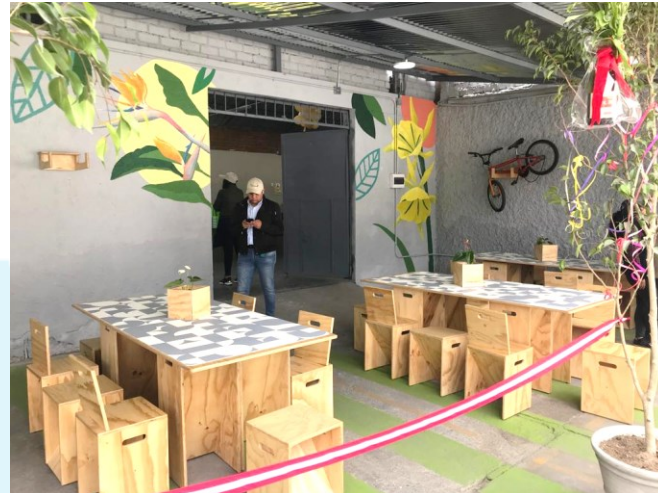


c) Urban Interventions

IntegrHabitat Centers - Andean Countries

➤ "Integrated Habitat Centers as Proximity Service Hubs: Care and Protection"

In the perspective of proximity and adequate housing, ensuring access to services for the entire population with a differential focus on youth, women, migrants, persons with disabilities, etc.



Interregional Cooperation Brazil-Africa

- **Mainstreaming Sustainable Urbanization through South-South Cooperation**
Partnership between UN-Habitat and the **Brazilian Cooperation Agency**, Ministry of Foreign Affairs.
- **Cooperation request** received from the **Government of Cape Verde**, through the **Ministry of Infrastructure, Territorial Planning, and Housing** (MIOTH).
- **Cape Verde Project results:**
 - Enhancing capacities to **localize the National Housing Policy** (NHP) in informal settlements.
 - Incorporating Technical Assistance for **Social Interest Housing** (ATHIS) in housing production.
 - Developing **social housing** projects that better align with families' needs, ensuring their participation in design and management.
- **Brazilian Cooperating Institutions**
 - Ministry of Cities (National Housing Secretariat and National Secretariat for Peripheries)
 - Council of Architecture and Urbanism (National and São Paulo state)
 - João Pinheiro Foundation



e) Coalitions

Urban Housing Practitioners Hub



6k +

individual members

170k +

users

100 +

Strategic partners

600 +

best practices

6

regional forums

60 +

Housing Laboratories

e) Coalitions

Urban Housing Practitioners Hub

The **Urban Housing Practitioners Hubs (UHPH)** are multi-stakeholder regional coalitions that foster collective action by **promoting exchange and co-creation, encouraging innovative initiatives, and managing knowledge** — through a digital platform (UHPH.org) — in housing and habitat, as regional public goods.

The UHPH coalitions are facilitated by [Habitat for Humanity International](#) and guided by the input and direction of Regional Advisory Councils, including [UN-Habitat's Regional Offices](#).

Vision

Advance the region in **promoting equal access to adequate and affordable housing to build inclusive, equitable, sustainable, resilient, and prosperous cities**, contributing to the achievement of the **Sustainable Development Goals and the New Urban Agenda**.

Mission

Facilitate the exchange of practical knowledge and experiences to accelerate progress in **promoting equal access to adequate and affordable housing**, with the ultimate goal of fostering prosperous and resilient cities.



e) Coalitions

Urban Housing Practitioners Hub

UHPH DIMENSIONS & ACTIVITIES

Convene, facilitate and exchange

Housing Laboratories

Community of Practices

UHPH Policy talks

Regional Housing Forum

Action and innovation

Inspiring Practices Competitions

Pilot interventions

Innovation challenges

Manage and transfer knowledge

UHPH Academy

UHPH Reports

Data-driven research

Knowledge repository



Some comments from the experiences

- a) **Data on informal settlements/housing is key to accelerate results at national/regional level**
- b) **Relevance of updating/completing adequate housing framework**
- c) **Relevance of connecting with proper urban planning/land policies and multilevel investments (public/private)**
- d) **Centrality of housing/informal settlements in the social protection agenda**
- e) **Accelerating impact of interregional exchange and relevant coalitions to support local/national/global objectives**



Asante sana

www.unhabitat.org

