



CATALOGUE

OF PRODUCTS AND SERVICES

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CONTENTS

Foreword	iv	Focus Area 3: Promotion of Pro-poor Land and Housing	
Position statement	1	Contents	28
About the catalogue	2	Kenya Slum Upgrading Project	29
UN-HABITAT's Comparative Advantage	3	Promoting Gender Equality	31
		Global Land Tool Network	34
The Medium-term Strategic and Institutional Plan		Housing Rights	36
Contents	4	Advisory Group on Forced Evictions	38
The Medium-Term Strategic and Institutional Plan	5	Promoting Adequate Shelter For All	40
Results Framework at a Glance	6	Shelter Profile Programme	41
Enhanced Normative and Operational Framework	7	Participatory Slum Upgrading and Prevention Programme	43
		Trust Fund for the Palestinian Housing Programme	45
Programmes, Services and Projects		Focus Area 4: Environmentally-sound Basic Urban Infrastructure and Services	
Contents	10	Contents	46
Programmes, Services and Project	11	Water and Sanitation Programme	47
Trust Funds	13		
FOCUS AREAS		Focus Area 5: Strengthened Human Settlements Finance Systems	
Focus Area 1: Effective Advocacy, Monitoring and Partnership		Contents	50
Contents	14	Slum Upgrading Facility	51
Youth Programme	15	Experimental Reimbursable Seeding Operations	53
Best Practices and Local Leadership Programme	17	Cities Alliance	55
Global Urban Observatory Programme	18	Funding	56
Global Campaign for Sustainable Urbanization	19	Urban Economy and Finance	
Global Flagship Report	20	(Also applies to Focus 1 through 4)	59
		The Kenya-Italy Debt for Development Programme	61
Focus Area 2: Promotion of Participatory Planning, Management and Governance			
Contents	22		
Managing Post-disaster Reconstruction	23		
Sustainable Urban Development Network	25		



FOREWORD



This publication presents an outline of UN-HABITAT's Medium-Term Strategic and Institutional Plan (2008-2013). It presents our Products and Services, both current and planned. And it also presents the agency's comparative advantages in these times of rapid and chaotic urbanization.

With half of humanity living in urban areas, the Plan is our new roadmap for meeting the challenges of an urban world. It is also a vision of a better urban future in a world where humanity can engage in its social, economic and cultural pursuits without compromising the ability of future generations to do so. In a rapidly urbanizing world, this is critical to the attainment of the Habitat Agenda and the human settlements related Millennium Development Goals.

After consultations with our partners at every level, we are convinced that our Plan is realistic and achievable as it is anchored in the principle of enhanced partnerships.

The idea is to marshal the goodwill, the know-how and the resources of all spheres of government, civil society, the business sector; international, regional and domestic financial institutions to focus sharply on the key determinants for sustainable urbanization and inclusive urban development.

As agreed by the 58 member States of the Governing Council which oversees our work programme and budget, these areas of focus are: (i) effective advocacy, monitoring and partnerships; (ii) the promotion of participatory planning and governance; (iii) the promotion of pro-poor land and housing; (iv) environmentally sound basic infrastructure and services; and (v) strengthened human settlements finance systems.

Work on each of these priorities will be spearheaded by a global campaign on "Better Cities, Better Life" to galvanize political will and commitment.

In short, the vision of sustainable urbanization is an achievable one.

It is achievable because the Plan builds on the growing realization of the international community that urbanization, despite all of its chaotic manifestations, represents a unique opportunity – a positive force – that can and must be harnessed to support economic growth and social advancement in a globalizing world economy.

This is particularly important in times of economic downturn and increasing climate change problems. It goes without saying that the impact of both is greatest on cities. Indeed, the

increasing number of disasters, natural and human-made, has highlighted the agency's unique contribution in the areas of planning and construction.

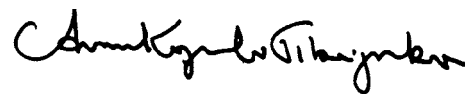
On the institutional front, the Medium-term Plan has a sixth component that places UN-HABITAT at the forefront of UN reform: excellence in management. Here accountability, transparency, results-based monitoring and reporting will become not the exception, but the rule.

Details of UN-HABITAT's products and services, for which sustained funding will be required, are presented in this catalogue. Many of them are derived from our activities at the country-level which have already been

approved and partially funded by the host government and supported by the UN Country Team. Owing to the strong sense of national and local ownership and to a coordinated approach with other UN agencies; these projects are totally in line with the principles of the Paris Declaration.

This catalogue will be periodically updated online.

We welcome your comments and suggestions.



Anna K. Tibaijuka
Executive Director

POSITION STATEMENT

UN-HABITAT, the United Nations Settlements Programme, is the United Nations agency for housing and urban development. It is mandated by the General Assembly to promote socially and environmentally sustainable towns and cities with the goal of providing adequate shelter for all. It helps transform cities into friendlier, healthier, greener places with better opportunities where everyone, including the urban poor, can live in dignity.

UN-HABITAT is one of the new United Nations bodies which works with organizations at every level, including local governments, to plan, finance, build and manage cities that are productive and liveable places for all, and which do not pollute the environment.

The world is at the dawn of a new urban era with most of humanity now living in cities. UN-HABITAT is at the frontline of the battle against fast growing poverty in cities, rapid urbanization, unemployment, disasters and the scourge of climate change. It does it by turning innovative ideas into action.

The United Nations gateway for cities, UN-HABITAT, is flexible, focused and responsive to the aspirations of cities and their residents. Our flagship publications are widely acknowledged as the premier works of reference on city trends and urban issues.

UN-HABITAT's programmes in hundreds of cities around the world are designed to achieve a measurable impact upon the lives of the urban poor as a major contribution to the attainment of the Millennium Development Goals.

ABOUT THE CATALOGUE

THIS CATALOGUE SERVES as a brief introduction to UN-HABITAT by highlighting its services and the focus of its operational activities. These activities include the promotion of decent housing and urban development for all.

The catalogue also provides information on UN-HABITAT's Medium-Term Strategic and Institutional Plan. The Plan is a blueprint to help member States meet the challenges of rapid urbanization and climate change.

Another element of importance in this catalogue is UN-HABITAT's humanitarian and disaster management role. The importance of responsive funding to this effort cannot be overstated, given the enormity of land and housing needs that arise as a result of conflict and disasters around the world.

UN-HABITAT's services, ongoing and pipeline projects are summarized in the catalogue for the benefit of actual and potential donors. All of UN-HABITAT's trust funds and a list of the organization's top 10 donors are also

provided. More detailed information will be made available on an online data base.

The catalogue also highlights UN-HABITAT's overall comparative advantage. Those of its various subprogrammes are also treated and how these relate to or impact the clients they serve.

All of the services, programmes and projects presented in this catalogue are part and parcel of the Medium-Term Strategic and Institutional Plan and are relevant to the attainment of Goal 7, Targets 10 and 11 of the Millennium Development Goals¹, for improved access to water and sanitation and the living conditions of slum dwellers. Their focus is on:

- Promoting shelter for all
- Improving urban governance
- Reducing urban poverty
- Improving the living environment
- Disaster preparedness and post-disaster reconstruction
- Sustainable urban development
- Global land tools

¹ See: <http://www.un.org/millenniumgoals>

UN-HABITAT'S COMPARATIVE ADVANTAGE

UN-HABITAT'S STRENGTH lies with its ability to convene a wide-range of actors to focus on problem solving using its technical expertise in housing and urban development. This combination is an important factor in gaining the trust of multiple actors to engage with each other in policy dialogue, capacity-building and follow-up action.

Within the United Nations system, UN-HABITAT's comparative advantage is that it works with urban poor communities, local authorities, financial institutions, providers of public services as well as national governments.

The organization recognizes local authorities as the front line actors in implementing the Habitat Agenda and the human settlements related Millennium Development Goals. It played a catalytic role in the formation of the United Cities and Local Governments² as a single associative body and voice for local authorities, which paved the way for local authorities to be represented in the governing body of UN-HABITAT.

To help realize the goal and vision of affordable housing and sustainable urban development, UN-HABITAT will concentrate on six mutually reinforcing focus areas: five of these are substantive, whilst the sixth concerns the agency's internal management objective for the plan period.

- Effective Advocacy, Monitoring and Partnerships
- Promotion of Participatory Planning, Management and Governance

- Promotion of Pro-poor Land and Housing
- Environmentally Sound Basic Urban Infrastructure and Services
- Strengthened Human Settlements Finance Systems
- Excellence in Management

The aim of these focus areas is to ensure that sustainable urbanization drives policy and practice. Their expected strategic results are presented below.

Focus Area 1: Improved sustainable urbanization policies from local to global levels adopted

Focus Area 2: Inclusive urban planning, management and governance improved at national and local levels

Focus Area 3: National and local governments and Habitat Agenda partners implement land and housing policies

Focus Area 4: Expected access to environmentally sound basic urban infrastructure services with a special focus on the unserved and the underserved populations

Focus Area 5: Improved access to sustainable financing for affordable housing and infrastructure in targeted countries

Focus Area 6: UN-HABITAT delivers Medium-Term Strategic and Institutional Plan results effectively and efficiently

² See: <http://www.cities-localgovernments.org>

THE MEDIUM-TERM STRATEGIC AND INSTITUTIONAL PLAN

The six-year Medium-Term Strategic and Institutional Plan is designed to help a global coalition of partners to meet the challenges of urban growth, where already one billion people live in life-threatening slums.

The Medium-Term Strategic and Institutional Plan	5
Results Framework at a Glance	6
The Enhanced Normative and Operational Framework	7



THE MEDIUM-TERM STRATEGIC AND INSTITUTIONAL PLAN (2008-2013)

THE PLAN AIMS to support member States in meeting the challenges of rapid urbanization, urban poverty and slums.

The Plan comprises strategic and institutional components. The strategic component envisages a world in which people living in urban settings can access decent housing, clean water and basic sanitation services. The institutional component places UN-HABITAT at the forefront of reform so that accountability, transparency and results-based management are adopted as standard procedure.

The Plan stems from an in-depth analysis of emerging trends of urbanization, slum formation and urban poverty; it is UN-HABITAT's contribution to the United Nations system-wide reform and coherence.

STRATEGIC VISION

The Plan's vision is to help create, by 2013, the conditions for international and national efforts "to realize more sustainable urbanization, including efforts to arrest the growth of slums, and set the stage for the subsequent reduction in and reversal of the number of slum dwellers worldwide".

THE STRATEGIC PLAN COMPLEMENTS UN-HABITAT'S STRENGTHS WHICH ARE:

- A normative and operational approach to urbanization;
- A capacity to bring all sectors of government and civil society to engage in policy talks, participatory planning and social organization;
- A long-standing partnership with local authorities in promoting sustainable urban development;
- Technical expertise in land and property administration; urban environmental management; participatory planning; bridging relief with sustainable recovery and reconstruction; urban safety and security; and urban governance.

STRATEGIC OBJECTIVES ARE TO:

- Mobilize public, private and civil society to implement a shared vision of sustainable urbanization
- Develop and advocate norms for sustainable and harmonious urban development, housing, upgrading and prevention of slums as well as reducing poverty
- Improve global knowledge and understanding
- Build the capacity of governments, local authorities

RESULTS FRAMEWORK AT A GLANCE

FOCUS AREA 1: EFFECTIVE ADVOCACY, MONITORING AND PARTNERSHIPS

Expected Accomplishments:

- Improved global awareness of sustainable urbanization issues at the local to global levels
- Habitat Agenda partners actively participate in the formulation of sustainable urbanization policy
- Monitoring of sustainable urbanization conditions and trends improved

FOCUS AREA 2: PROMOTION OF PARTICIPATORY PLANNING, MANAGEMENT & GOVERNANCE

Expected Accomplishments:

- Improved policies, legislation and strategies support inclusive urban planning, management and governance
- Strengthened institutions promote inclusive urban planning, management and governance
- Improved implementation of inclusive urban planning, management and governance

FOCUS AREA 3: PROMOTION OF PRO-POOR LAND AND HOUSING

Expected Accomplishments:

- Enabling land and housing policy reforms supported
- Strengthened institutions support increased security of tenure
- Slum improvement and prevention enhanced

FOCUS AREA 4: ENVIRONMENTALLY SOUND BASIC INFRASTRUCTURE AND SERVICES

Expected Accomplishments:

- An enabling policy and institutional framework promotes expanded access to environmentally sound urban infrastructure and services
- Increase institutional efficiency and effectiveness in the provision of basic urban infrastructure services
- Enhanced consumer demand for efficient and environmentally sustainable basic urban infrastructure and services

FOCUS AREA 5: STRENGTHENED HUMAN SETTLEMENTS FINANCE SYSTEMS

Expected Accomplishments:

- Increased financing for affordable housing and infrastructure
- Empowered consumers (including women's organizations) access financing for affordable housing and infrastructure
- Effective local institutions access to finance for affordable housing and infrastructure
- Conducive policy frameworks

FOCUS AREA 6: EXCELLENCE IN MANAGEMENT

Expected Accomplishments:

- Staff are empowered to achieve planned results
- Institution aligned to deliver the Plan's results
- Resource-based Management approaches applied
- Financial resources achieve the Plan's results

THE ENHANCED NORMATIVE AND OPERATIONAL FRAMEWORK

UN-HABITAT's Enhanced Normative and Operational Framework is “an integrated approach to support governments and their development partners to achieve more sustainable urbanization”.

The framework consists of a partnership and networking strategy; and an integrated approach to policy development, capacity-building and project implementation.

PARTNERSHIP AND NETWORKING

The aim here is to mobilize a critical mass of partners and networks in support of the sustainable urbanization agenda. These include United Nations bodies, international finance institutions and the Habitat Agenda partners for the monitoring, reporting and advocacy of urbanization and urban poverty concerns.

In each of the Plan's substantive focus areas, UN-HABITAT is strengthening its working relationships with key professional networks. These are outlined in the box below.



Focus Area	Working Relationship With
1: Effective Advocacy, Monitoring and Partnerships	Urban researchers and associations of urban planners, governments, private sector, civil society organizations and the media
2: Promotion of Participatory Planning, Management and Governance	Local authorities and associations, governments, urban planners and civil society
3: Promotion of Pro-poor Land and Housing	Governments, surveyors and land professionals (under the auspices of the Global Land Tool Network)
4: Environmentally Sound Basic Urban Infrastructure and Services	National and local governments, the private sector, civil society organizations, communities and vulnerable groups
5: Strengthened Human Settlements Finance Systems	Banks and other finance institutions, governments and the private sector

Urban legal specialists and parliamentarians are other professional groups being mobilized. The Global Campaign for Sustainable Urbanization is an important vehicle for this mobilization.

THE FRAMEWORK'S COUNTRY-LEVEL APPROACH

Objective: To enable countries to analyse their respective conditions and trends of urbanization; and assess priority initiatives for achieving more sustainable urbanization. The objective is to include urbanization in national development plans and strategies.

THE FRAMEWORK'S LOCAL-LEVEL APPROACH

Objective: To provide technical advisory and capacity-building support for policy and institutional reform in the key focus areas. Additionally, UN-HABITAT facilitates strong working relationships between Habitat Agenda partners: communities, civil society, the private sector, local authorities, and central governments to help align efforts to achieve sustainable urbanization-related goals.

COUNTRY-LEVEL PRIORITIES

At country-level UN-HABITAT is expected to:

- Enhance national and local capacity to implement human settlement policies, strategies and programmes with special focus on the reduction of urban poverty and effective response to disasters.
- Improve national policies on housing and urban development in line with global norms and to increase knowledge of urban conditions and trends.
- Mainstream sustainable urbanization into United Nations Development Assistance Frameworks and national development strategies and plans, including Poverty Reduction Strategy Papers where appropriate.



PROGRAMMES, SERVICES AND PROJECTS

UN-HABITAT's numerous global programmes represent the organization's core activities and involves numerous countries around the world. The programmes also draw in a wide-range of partners that included central governments, civil society and beneficiary communities.

Programmes, Services and Projects	1
Trust Funds	2



PROGRAMMES, SERVICES AND PROJECTS

UN-HABITAT PROJECTS fall under various programmes that are the platforms from which the organization launches its operations. Programmes are designed to help policy-makers and local communities find durable solutions to human urban settlement challenges. Programmes operate globally, regionally and nationally. As such, they hold a huge potential to improve the lives of millions of urban poor, significantly. Therefore programmes represent the organizations core activities, for which vastly increased and sustained funding is required.

UN-HABITAT'S GLOBAL PROGRAMMES ARE:

- Best Practices
- Cities Alliance
- Global Campaign for Sustainable Urbanization
- Global Land Tool Network
- Global Urban Observatory
- Gender Mainstreaming
- Housing Rights
- Managing Post-disaster Reconstruction
- Monitoring Urban Inequities Programme
- Participatory Slum Upgrading
- Safer Cities Programme
- Shelter Profile Programme
- Strengthening Training Institutions
- Sustainable Development Network
- Urban Economy and Finance
- Water and Sanitation
- Youth Programme

COUNTRY-LEVEL PROGRAMMES

UN-HABITAT also operates programmes at the country-level. These are integrated programmes of normative and operational activities, being conducted in 30 countries worldwide. The integrated programme forms one of the four components of UN-HABITAT's in-country activities, the Enhanced Normative and Operational Framework.

OBJECTIVE OF THE IN-COUNTRY ACTIVITIES

The objective is to urge policy reforms consistent with global United Nations agendas:

- The Habitat Agenda
- The Millennium Declaration
- Build institutional and human capacities at the national, municipal and local levels
- Test, validate and disseminate norms, strategies, policy options and practical tools through demonstration projects
- Support implementation of local and national plans of action and mobilize or leverage corresponding national resources

Country operations are long-term, holistic efforts rooted in the national and local context. These operations complement global programmes, which tend towards networking and knowledge-building, and are linked to regional normative activities.

REGIONAL STRUCTURE

UN-HABITAT runs country-level operations through its regional offices.

REGIONAL OFFICES

- The Regional Office for Africa and Arab States.
Location: Nairobi, Kenya
- The Regional Office for Asia and the Pacific.
Location: Fukuoka, Japan
- The Regional Office for Latin America and the Caribbean. Location: Rio de Janeiro, Brazil
- The Office for Central European Countries.
Location: Warsaw, Poland

A Cairo Office for the Arab States is envisaged, with financial support from the Government of Egypt.

COUNTRY-LEVEL PRIORITIES

At country-level UN-HABITAT is expected to:

- Enhance regional, national and local capacity to implement human settlements policies, strategies and programmes with special focus on the reduction of urban poverty and a response to disasters.
- Improve national policies on housing and urban development in line with UN-HABITAT's global norms and to increase regional knowledge of urban conditions and trends.
- Improve coherence and integration of sustainable urbanization into United Nations Development Assistance Framework and national development strategies and plans, including Poverty Reduction Strategy Papers where they exist.

These activities are undertaken at government request and are extra-budgetary.



TRUST FUNDS

UN-HABITAT OPERATES trust funds aimed at helping beneficiaries to attain specific aspects of the Millennium Development Goals and other development targets.

These trust funds are designed to facilitate contributions by multiple donors in support of a common set of development objectives and to reduce transaction costs through a transparent and accountable governance system - mostly donor representatives, and international and national partners.

One such operation is the Slum Upgrading Facility, a pilot programme established in 2004 to help devise the financial methodologies for slum improvements. The facility provides advisory services, the packaging of financial products and referral functions to its clients. Critical is the concept of “credit enhancements” guaranteeing local loans from commercial banks for slum improvement projects.

A parallel activity to this is the Experimental Reimbursable Seeding Operation started in 2007. It is designed to provide seed money for pro-poor housing and related infrastructure projects on a reimbursable basis.

The Water and Sanitation Trust Fund supports developing countries in achieving the internationally agreed development goal for water and sanitation in rapidly growing urban areas. It leverages policy advisory skills and local institution building with follow up investments from regional development banks and the World Bank.

A special fund was established in 2005 called the Palestinian Housing Fund. The Fund is designed to improve the living conditions of the Palestinian people and to promote peace-building.

FOCUS AREA 1

EFFECTIVE ADVOCACY, MONITORING AND PARTNERSHIP

This focus area aims to use education, communication and evidence-based information to promote sustainable urbanization. This will be done by collecting data and analyzing it, and through policy dialogue, advocacy, strategic partnerships and resource mobilization.

Youth Programme	15
Best Practices and Local Leadership Programme	17
Global Urban Observatory Programme (also applies to Focus Area 2)	18
Global Campaign for Sustainable Urbanization	19
Global Flagship Report	20



YOUTH PROGRAMME

THE CHALLENGE

Young people constitute a large proportion of the urban population in rapidly urbanizing developing countries. Often, they have no jobs and no voice. Any effective intervention to improve the living conditions of the urban poor and slum dwellers must deal with the challenges facing youth.

FOCUS

The work of UN-HABITAT with respect to youth is guided by the Habitat Agenda, which recommends a participatory approach to promote employment, training, as well as crime prevention and stresses the role of young people in the alleviation of poverty and inequality. UN-HABITAT also strives to mainstream youth issues into all of the organization's programmes and activities by supporting and strengthening the awareness of youth issues and providing coordination as in the case of UN-HABITAT's cooperation with the International Olympic Committee.

GLOBAL PARTNERSHIP INITIATIVE

The Global Partnership Initiative on Urban Youth Development, launched at the Second World Urban Forum in 2004, is the lead youth programme within UN-HABITAT. The initiative seeks to integrate the Millennium Development Goals with development programmes at the city-level focusing on and working with urban youth, local governments, civil society, other relevant United Nations agencies, multilateral institutions and private foundations to provide meaningful solutions to urban youth challenges. The Global Partnership Initiative will also strengthen the capacities of local



Participants at the World Urban Forum in Nanjing, China, celebrate the launch of the Opportunities Fund for Urban led Development on 4 November 2008. Photo © UN-HABITAT

authorities and other institutions to engage youth effectively in policy formulation and the implementation of programmes. In addition to the local and national governments, activities are developed in partnership with other relevant United Nations agencies, multilateral institutions, civil society and private foundations.

YOUTH RESOURCE CENTRES

One of the key programmes of the Global Partnership Initiative has been the creation of resource centres for youth. UN-HABITAT and local governments have set up One-Stop Youth Information Resource Centres in several African cities to prepare young people for employment through training in entrepreneurship, computer technologies and apprenticeships. The centres also provide health-related training and prevention programmes and activities as well as information on local governance. Lastly, the centres are hubs for youth to engage in cultural and physical activities such as music and



Photo © UNEP

sports that give youth access to positive activities allowing them to interact positively with their community and their peers.

Similarly, the agency has set up special “We are the Future” centres in towns and cities recovering from conflict and disaster. These centres concentrate on youth-led services for orphans and vulnerable children. The focus of this rehabilitation work is on health, nutrition, arts, sports and computer technology with the final aim of peace-building and entrepreneurship creation.

OPPORTUNITIES FUND FOR URBAN YOUTH-LED DEVELOPMENT

UN-HABITAT has established an “Opportunities Fund for Urban Youth-led Development” to strengthen the capacity of youth-led initiatives in improving young people’s livelihoods. The Fund helps test new approaches to good governance, adequate shelter and secure tenure, and promotes the sharing of best practices. It also promotes vocational training and

credit mechanisms to encourage entrepreneurship and employment for young women and men, in collaboration with the private sector, civil society and with other United Nations bodies.

Other UN-HABITAT Youth Programmes and activities include the Moonbeam Youth Training Centre, the Urban Youth Entrepreneurship Programme and the World Urban Youth Forum – all geared to promoting and advancing youth engagement and involvement in human settlements development and management issues.

KEY PUBLICATIONS

- “UN-HABITAT & Youth”
- Youth Entrepreneurship and Employment
- Habitat Debate Vol.9, No.2: “Young People in an Urbanizing World”
- Global Report on Human Settlements 2007: Enhancing Urban Safety and Security
- State of the World’s Cities 2006/7
- Youth Opportunity Fund
- Global Partnership Initiative

THE BEST PRACTICES AND LOCAL LEADERSHIP PROGRAMME

BEST PRACTICES are actions that have made a lasting contribution to improving the quality of life and the sustainability of communities, cities and regions.

The programme is a global network including government agencies, local authorities, professional and academic institutions, as well as grassroots organizations dedicated to the identification and exchange of successful solutions for sustainable human development.

OBJECTIVES:

- Raise awareness of decision-makers on critical social, economic and environmental issues
- Better inform decision-makers of the practical means and policy options for improving the living environment. It does so by identifying, disseminating and applying lessons learned from Best Practices to ongoing training, leadership and policy development activities.

BEST PRACTICES AND LOCAL LEADERSHIP PARTNERS SPECIALIZE IN:

- Housing and urban development
- Urban governance
- Environmental planning and management
- Architecture and urban design
- Economic development
- Social inclusion
- Crime prevention
- Poverty reduction
- Women

- Youth
- Cultural heritage
- Municipal finance and management
- Infrastructure and social services

The policy implications and lessons learned from Best Practices are incorporated into UN-HABITAT's State of the World's Cities report and other publications.

BEST PRACTICE PRODUCTS INCLUDE:

- Documented and peer-reviewed best practices
- Examples of good policies and enabling legislation
- Case studies and briefs and transfer methodologies

These products are destined for decision-makers and practising professionals at all levels of government and organized civil society.

PARTNERS

The Best Practices Programme forms part of the Global Urban Observatory, UN-HABITAT's facility for monitoring global trends in sustainable urban development and evaluating progress in the implementation of the Habitat Agenda and the Millennium Development Goals.

TOOL

The criteria for Best Practice are included on the Best Practices website³. The lessons learned from selected best practices are analyzed in case studies and guides and are made available to countries, cities or communities.

³See: <http://www.bestpractices.org/>

THE GLOBAL URBAN OBSERVATORY

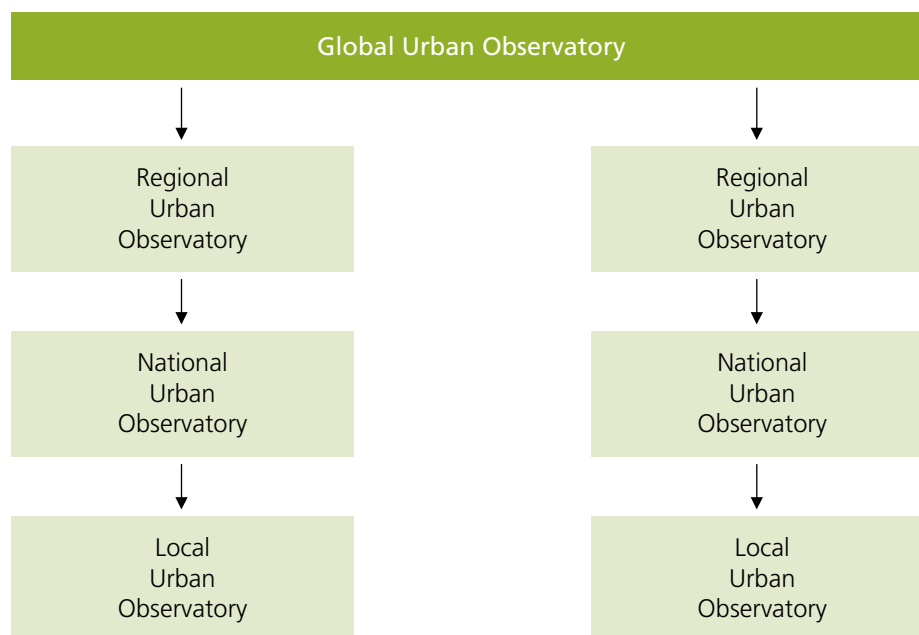
THE OBSERVATORY strives to improve the worldwide base of urban knowledge by helping governments, local authorities and civil society organizations to develop and apply policy-oriented urban indicators, statistics and other urban information. It monitors progress towards the attainment of the Millennium Development Goals as well as the Development Impact Assessment of programmes in cities.

ACTIVITIES

Activities are based on the development of an integrated network of national and local urban observatories. The targets are policy-makers at all levels and organizations of civil society participating in sustainable urban development.

The main areas of work include:

- Assistance to governments, local authorities and organizations of local civil society to amplify their ability to collect, manage, maintain and use information on urban development;
- Enhancement of the use of knowledge and urban indicators to formulate policy, planning and urban management through a participatory process;
- Collection and sharing of results of global, national and city-level monitoring activities, as well as disseminating good practices in the use of urban information worldwide.



THE GLOBAL CAMPAIGN FOR SUSTAINABLE URBANIZATION



Photos © V. Kitio/UN-HABITAT

THE CHALLENGE

Poorly managed urbanization generates a number of potentially devastating problems. Some of these are uncontrolled urban sprawl, pollution, unsustainable use of land, water and other natural resources, poverty and social exclusion. Globally, these fuel the negative impact of climate change.

FOCUS

Through advocacy, the campaign for sustainable urbanization works to promote and reinforce the attitudes, actions and policies that would enable governments and civil society to create and maintain sustainable conditions of urbanization.

Campaign actions will include annual and biennial events as well as targeted national and global actions, in harmony with yearly campaign themes. Through the campaign, the combined influence of governments, local authorities, media, private sector, civil society and academia will be harnessed to achieve policy change, investment and changed mindsets, which are needed to shape our cities towards a sustainable future.

OBJECTIVES:

- To enhance UN-HABITAT's catalytic role, with a systematic approach towards partnership, advocacy and networking
- To drive substantive coherence, linking Medium-Term Strategic and Institutional Implementation Plan focus areas
- To amplify key messages of the plan through targeted advocacy and awareness, including global reports, the World Urban Forum and World Habitat Day

CAMPAIGN ALSO:

- Mobilizes partners, providing the glue that keeps everyone working together
- Provides the visibility to leverage the mission, raising the voice that keeps the campaign high on the global agenda
- Acts as a beacon, continuously guiding stakeholders towards the mission
- Motivates all stakeholders ensuring resource allocation, continuity and growth



Photos © V. Kitio/UN-HABITAT

GLOBAL FLAGSHIP REPORTS

THE GLOBAL REPORT ON HUMAN SETTLEMENTS; THE STATE OF THE WORLD CITIES REPORT

UN-HABITAT PUBLISHES TWO FLAGSHIP REPORTS that provide authoritative assessments on housing and urban development trends and issues. The Global Report on Human Settlements presents the up-to-date account of conditions and trends in human settlements around the world.

There have been six such reports, so far, since the first in 1986. Each has been on a different theme. The reports contain graphs, case studies and extensive data, which provide excellent resources for researchers, academics, planners and public officials worldwide.

PUBLISHED GLOBAL REPORTS INCLUDE:

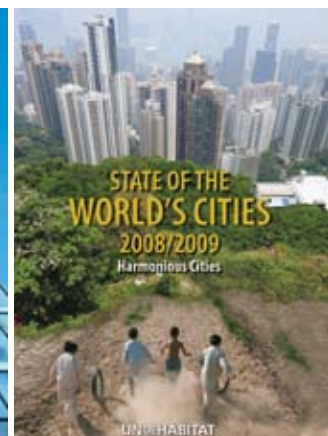
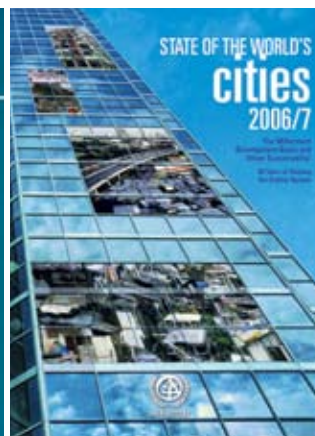
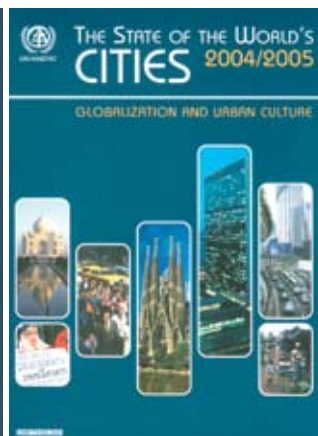
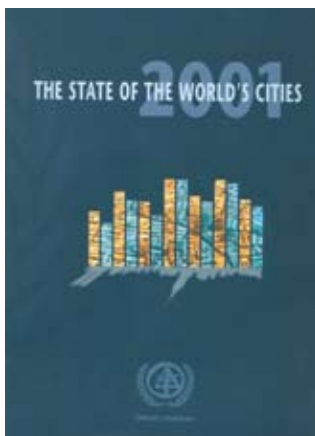
- Global Report on Human Settlement; 1986
- An Urbanizing World; Global report 1996
- Cities in a Globalizing World; 2001
- The Challenges of Slums; 2003
- Financing Urban Shelter; 2005
- Enhancing Urban Safety and Security; 2007

The State of the World Cities Report was first published in 2001. It monitors major trends and issues in implementing the Habitat Agenda.

The second edition, in 2004/2005, dwells on the theme Globalization and Urban Culture. It charts the progress and the challenges mankind faces in a rapidly urbanizing world.

The third edition, in 2006/2007, was on The Millennium Development Goals and Urban Sustainability. This publication broke new ground by showing that urban slum dwellers in developing countries are as badly off as their rural counterparts. This is despite the general assumption that urban residents are healthier, more literate and prosperous than rural folk.

The theme “Harmonious Cities was the focus of the fourth State of the World’s Cities in 2008/2009. It illustrates that cities can make their inhabitants more prosperous while achieving equitable social outcomes and supporting the sustainable use of resources.





Photos © V. Kitio/UN-HABITAT

FOCUS AREA 2

PROMOTION OF PARTICIPATORY PLANNING, MANAGEMENT AND GOVERNANCE

The intention of this focus area is to strengthen the performance of national governments, local authorities and other stakeholders so that cities can become liveable, productive and inclusive. This will be done through policy dialogue, the development of tools, building capacity, pilot initiatives and country-wide technical aid.

Managing Post-disaster Reconstruction

22

Sustainable Urban Development Network

24



MANAGING POST-DISASTER RECONSTRUCTION

THE CHALLENGE

BY THE END OF 2007, CONFLICTS and natural disasters had displaced 67 million people worldwide, the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees says in its Global Trends⁴ report for that year.

The Asia-Pacific region was host to 3.8 million refugees under the agency's mandate. The Middle East and North Africa accounted for 2.7 million; sub-Saharan Africa 2.2 million; Europe 1.6 million; and the Americas 987,500.

These are just some of the casualties of conflict and other disasters.

Disasters, whether man-made or natural, attract immediate world attention as government and humanitarian organizations rush to provide aid. However, after crises ebb attention often shifts elsewhere, although thousands may still need help.

FOCUS: DISASTER MANAGEMENT PROGRAMMING

Inter-Agency Standing Committee

While not a humanitarian organization, UN-HABITAT has a significant role to play in helping member States prevent disasters; lessen the impact when they do occur; and, after disasters, to help in rehabilitation of shelter.

Disaster management focuses on land and housing for the poor. It assists national government and Habitat Agenda partners to adopt pro-poor,

gender and age-sensitive housing, land management and property administration through enabling policies and improved regulatory frameworks

POST-DISASTER RECONSTRUCTION ACTIVITY

Five key areas of intervention are required in a post-crisis situation: infrastructure, shelter, land, environment and livelihoods. Almost all other aspects of intervention can fit into these areas. UN-HABITAT provides advisory and technical support. It works with partners on upgrading settlements in land, tenure and property rights; transitional and permanent shelter; environmental remediation (that is solid and liquid waste management as well



Debris on the shores of a Sibuyan Island, Philippines, nearly a week after typhoon Fengshen ravaged the area in June 2008. Photo © J. Gutierrez/IRIN

⁴ See: <http://www.unhcr.org/statistics/STATISTICS/4852366f2.pdf>



Bir el-Abed, southern Beirut, damaged by an Israel air strike 16 July 2006. Photo © L. Hatoum/IRIN



Indonesia. Photo © UN-HABITAT

as recycling waste); rehabilitation of basic infrastructure (that is transport, water, schools and health facilities); and immediate economic recovery and restoration of livelihoods (that is markets, income generating activities).

GLOBAL TECHNICAL COOPERATION

Additionally, UN-HABITAT offers the experiences of its global technical cooperation programmes to support requesting post-crisis member States in the following way:

- Damage and needs assessments for housing, basic infrastructure and services.
- Immediate technical aid to affected communities, local authorities, support agencies in site preparation,

property management, housing reconstruction, rehabilitation of infrastructure.

- Field-level coordination and information management in the human settlements sector.
- Development and implementation of integrated shelter recovery programmes and strategies promoting the principles of sustainable recovery, and addressing the most vulnerable segments of the population.
- Selected implementation and delivery of priority projects/pilot activities to demonstrate the feasibility of new and improved norms, standards, laws and planning practices that help member States achieve resilient and sustainable urban development.

THE SUSTAINABLE URBAN DEVELOPMENT NETWORK

THE CHALLENGE

WHILE GLOBALLY RESOURCES to promote sustainable urban development are adequate, the conditions needed to leverage resources necessary for such action are often lacking.

The required conditions are adequate access, relevant for interaction and the necessary human, technical and financial capacities. Thus, the Network was created to fill this void. Its vision is to contribute to liveable, productive and inclusive cities which embrace social harmony, economic vitality and environmental sustainability.

FOCUS

UN-HABITAT supports the development of “a network of global partners, which focuses on promoting interdisciplinary approaches to sustainable urban development”. It strengthens global networks through regional, national and local-level partnership. It is one of the main vehicles for advancing the Global Campaign for Sustainable Urbanization.

PARTNERSHIP, MEMBERSHIP

The Network has built partnerships at the global, national, regional, national and city levels. Members are institutions, organizations and professionals, and include governmental, intergovernmental and nongovernmental organizations; local authorities and city networks. In addition, there are institutions of research and higher learning; capacity-building and training agencies; as well as land and property organizations. The Network's partners are those who

contribute substantial knowledge, as well as financial and technical resources to the Network.

Currently, the Network has two components: Cities in Climate Change Initiative and Habitat Partner Universities. Other activities, Safer Cities and Urban Planning are likely to be integrated into the network's programme.

URBAN PLANNING AND DESIGN

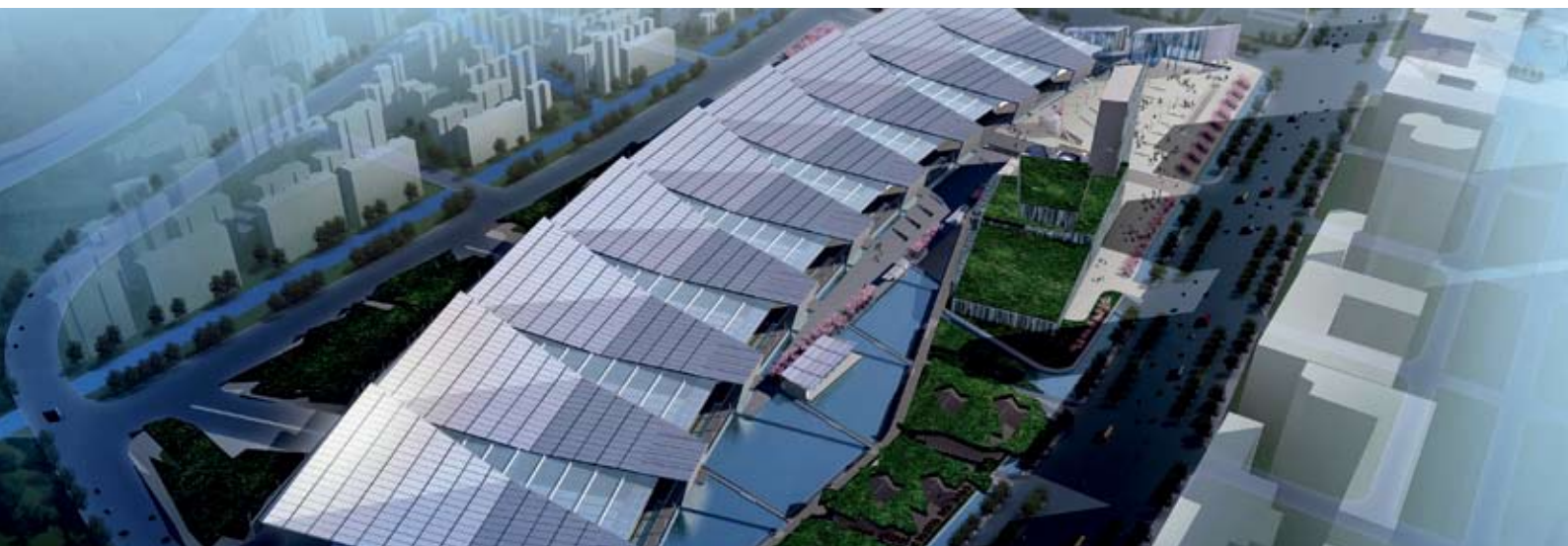
THE CHALLENGE

PLANNING AND DESIGN of urban areas has seized centre stage, as a result of rapid urbanization and climate change.

In 2007, for the first time in history, half of humanity lived in towns and cities, which have been growing at unprecedented rates. In 1950, there were 86 megacities worldwide; today that figure has reached 400 and will surpass 550 by 2015.

Projections also indicate that by 2030 three-quarters of the world's population will be urban, the bulk of whom will be in developing countries. Currently the average annual population increase in the cities of developing countries is estimated at 64 million or 175,000 persons per day.

Of the three billion people who live in cities today, one in three (that is one billion people) are slum dwellers. Slums are the emerging human settlements calling for innovative urban planning and design to improve their environmental and living conditions.



Exhibition halls for World Urban Forum 4 in Nanjing, China. Photo © S. Jianguo/UN-HABITAT

CLIMATE CHANGE

Urbanization is inextricably linked to climate change. The future of hundreds of millions of people will be determined by the pace of adaptation and mitigation undertaken by cities.

With only half of humanity living in urban areas, cities and towns already consume 75 per cent of the World's energy and contribute to a similar proportion of all wastes linking a significant portion of greenhouse gas emission. Poorly planned cities also consume land, water and other natural resources, often leading to the irreversible destruction of forests, watersheds and nature's carbon sinks.

FOCUS

In response to these needs, UN-HABITAT has established, in the framework of the Sustainable Urban Development Network, a unit charged with urban design and planning

services. It has an agency-wide mandate to develop prototypes through the application of tools, techniques, and

processes developed through normative and capacity-building work.

HABITAT PARTNER UNIVERSITIES

As an initiative under the Education, Training and Research component under the Sustainable Urban Development Network, UN-HABITAT has created the Habitat Partner Universities collaboration as a means of enlarging cooperation between UN-HABITAT and institutions of higher education, as well as facilitating exchange and cooperation between universities in developing and developed nations.

Habitat Partner Universities are institutions willing to promote socially and environmentally sustainable development of towns and cities.

Habitat Partner Universities encourage interaction and cooperation between institutions of higher education based on the principles of reciprocity and mutual benefit, as well promoting an integrated approach to the ecological, economic, social and cultural dimensions of the sustainable development of human settlements.

UN-HABITAT works with the Habitat Partner Universities in building the capacity of tertiary institutions in teaching and research for the sound development of human settlements. This includes facilitating exchanges between Habitat Partner Universities in different countries, and other institutions, bilaterally or internationally. Working with tertiary institutions on enhancing the quantity and quality of research and training in sustainable urban development aims to make such knowledge more accessible and relevant to actors at city-level.

THE SAFER CITIES PROGRAMME

THE CHALLENGE

Rising levels of urban violence and crime worldwide are a bane to direct foreign (or even local) investments, anywhere. This is especially true for Africa, the Caribbean and Latin America, which all face significant development challenges.

Crime and violence also erodes social and cultural bonds and prevent social mobility, thereby contributing to the development of urban ghettos. Thus, the world's poor are the most affected by urban crime and violence.

FOCUS

The Safer Cities Programme was launched in 1996 at the request of African mayors who wanted to curb urban violence by developing a prevention strategy at city-level. The programme supports the implementation of the Habitat Agenda, which acknowledges the responsibility of local authorities in preventing crime.

The main objectives of the programme are to:

- Build capacities at city-level to respond adequately to urban insecurity; and, thereby
- Contribute to the establishment of a culture of prevention.

- The highest rates of homicide are in the developing countries particularly in sub-Saharan Africa, the Caribbean and Latin America
- Africa's cities have the highest burglary and assault rates and the second highest rates of robberies
- Sixty per cent of all urban residents have been victims of crime, with 70 per cent in Latin America and Africa
- Russia and the United States of America have particularly high murder rates

Source: UN-Habitat Global report on Human Settlements 2007 – Enhancing Urban Safety and Security

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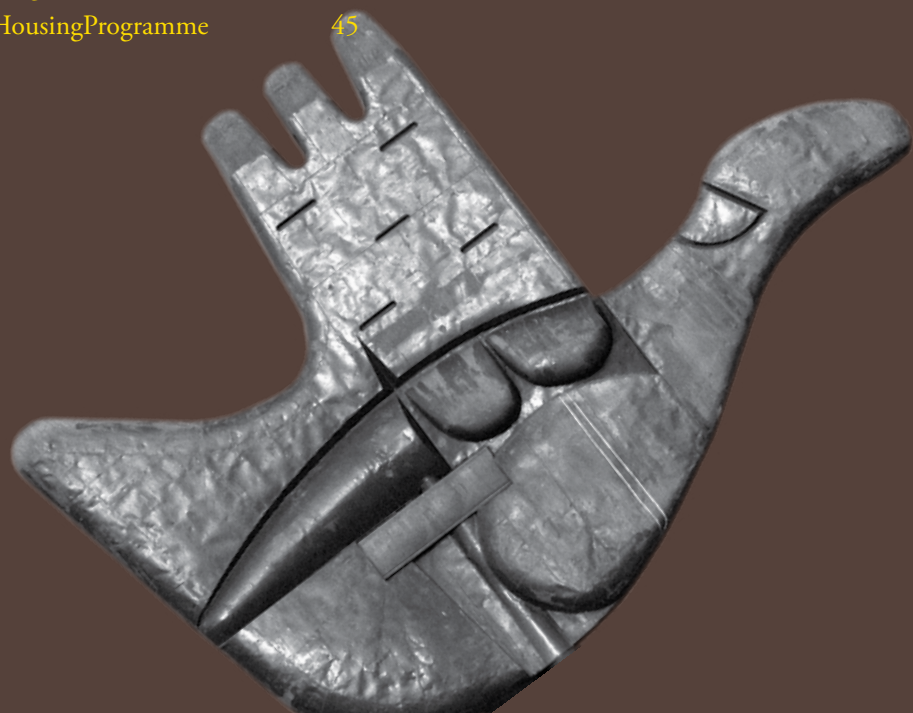
For the Safer Cities Programme: Ms Laura Petrella; Coordinator, Safer Cities Programme; Tel: +254 20 762 3706; E-mail: Laura.Petrella@unhabitat.org or safer.cities@unhabitat.org

FOCUS AREA 3

PROMOTION OF PRO-POOR LAND AND HOUSING

National governments and Habitat Agenda partners will be assisted to adopt pro-poor, gender and age-sensitive housing, land management and property administration programmes and strategies. This will be done by promoting enabling policies and improving regulatory frameworks.

Kenya Slum Upgrading Programme	29
Promoting Gender Equality	31
Global Land Tool Network	34
Housing Rights	36
Advisory Group on Forced Evictions	38
Promoting Adequate Shelter For All	40
The Shelter Profile Programme	41
Participatory Slum Upgrading Programme	43
Trust Fund for the Palestinian Housing Programme	45



THE KENYA SLUM UPGRADING PROGRAMME

THE CHALLENGE

The most visible manifestation of urban poverty in the 21st century is the slum. Within these areas the nature of shelter may vary from shanty to permanent and well-maintained structures. However, one constant applies to most slums: they lack clean water, electricity, sanitation and other social services.

PROVISION OF BASIC SERVICES

Kenya's capital, Nairobi, is "home" to some of the world's most densely populated slums. There are about 200 slums and squatter settlements in the city. Kibera Slum is now the largest of these, with more than one million residents packed in an area of less than 2.5 square kilometres.

The government has adopted the Kenya Slum Upgrading Programme, which is a collaborative effort between the Kenya Government and UN-HABITAT. The Kibera Slum upgrading decanting site was the launch site of the nationwide slum-upgrading programme during World Habitat Day, October 2004.

OBJECTIVE

The development objective of the programme is to improve the overall livelihood of people living and working in slums and other informal settlements. This will be done by improving housing, income generation, infrastructure services and land tenure. The following specific objectives are:

- Promote broad-based partnerships, utilizing consensus building among all stakeholders
- Build institutional and human resource capacities at local and

national levels for slum upgrading interventions

- Facilitate the implementation of innovative and replicable slum upgrading pilot projects
- Assist the government of Kenya in developing financial strategies for slum upgrading
- Collect and disseminate information on sustainable slum upgrading practices

AREAS OF FOCUS

UN-HABITAT has been involved in many KENSUP initiatives since 2002, focusing on: i) Organizing committees for slum upgrading; ii) Mapping the target communities; ii) Capacity-building of the local authorities and local communities; and iii) Technical advice to the KENSUP partners.

UN-HABITAT is involved in the following KENSUP projects:

- Kibera Slum Upgrading Initiative, Nairobi
- Cities without Slums, Kisumu, Western Kenya
- Mombasa Slum Upgrading Programme, southeast Kenya
- Provision of Basic Services in Selected Slum Settlements in Nairobi – Kahawa Soweto, 15 kilometres northeast of Nairobi.
- Kibera Integrated Water, Sanitation and Waste Management Project, 5 kilometres southeast of Nairobi
- Kindest Slum Youth Project, Thika, 40 kilometres east of Nairobi.
- Youth Empowerment Programme, Kibera and Mavoko, 25 kilometres southeast of Nairobi

EXPECTED RESULTS:

- Contribute to the realization of the objectives set in the Habitat Agenda, the Millennium Development Goals 7, Targets 10 and 11.
- Strengthen the capacity of local authorities to facilitate slum upgrading and related processes, by encouraging the participation of small-scale firms and community groups in public works through community contracts.

At the community-level, aims to improve the livelihoods of the people living and working in slums by empowering them socially and economically through co-operatives; building associations, and project management committees. KENSUP offers training opportunities for slum dwellers in sustainable practices, such as construction, water supply, sanitation and solid waste start up income generation activities.

PARTNERS, THEIR ROLES

GOVERNMENT OF KENYA

The Government has the responsibility for the execution and management of KENSUP. Therefore, it holds responsibility for land and tenure issues, coordination, resource supply, and monitoring and evaluation. It is also responsible for the legal and policy framework.

LOCAL AUTHORITIES

Local authorities implement projects within their municipalities; undertake urban planning functions; as well as provide and maintain physical and social infrastructure. They also help to develop the regulatory framework and service provision concerning slums. Without the involvement of local authorities,

slum upgrading cannot succeed.

PARTICIPATING SLUM COMMUNITIES

UN-HABITAT recognizes the participating slum communities as equal partners in the programme. Since local communities are best aware of their needs, any projects that do not consider their inputs are unlikely to succeed.

CIVIL SOCIETY ORGANIZATIONS

Civil society organizations have a lot of expertise on different issues relevant to KENSUP. They are also well placed to mobilize communities and represent their interests. Their involvement will enhance participation and help mobilize slum dwellers around common goals and promote consensus building for slum upgrading.

THE PRIVATE SECTOR

KENSUP recognizes the need for innovative ways of involving the private sector in slum upgrading. By taking part in KENSUP, the private sector can also demonstrate its corporate social responsibility towards its slum-dweller workers.



Kibera Decanting Site 620 units developed for slum relocation
© J. Kaiganaine/UN-HABITAT

PROMOTING GENDER EQUALITY

THE CHALLENGE

If we are to meet the global anti-poverty targets of the Millennium Development Goals, we cannot afford to overlook the needs of women and girls who make up half the world population and represent the majority of the urban poor. To stabilize and prevent the growth of slums and promote livable, productive cities, we need to respond to enduring gender differences and inequalities. These female inequalities to male persist despite decades of campaigning by women's rights organizations. For example:

- Women hold less than 2 per cent of the world's private land
- Women in slums and informal settlements are particularly at risk of violence in public spaces.
- The lack of separate toilet facilities for boys and girls in slums and informal settlements deters many girls from attending school, particularly after the onset of puberty.

FOCUS

UN-HABITAT promotes women's empowerment and gender equality in the sustainable development of cities. By creating awareness of the different effects of urbanization on men and women and promoting gender equality, whole communities can benefit; societies can become fairer and services more effective.

UN-HABITAT is tackling gender equality in housing and urban development under the following action areas:

- Advocacy and monitoring of

gender equality in cities ((Medium-Term Strategic and Institutional Plan Relevance: Focus Area 1) UN-HABITAT is promoting and developing global reports, tools and policy guides that reflect gender differences, so that inequalities in specific areas can be first identified and then redressed.

- Urban planning, governance and management (relevance: Focus Area 2) - Gender-responsive policies and legislation will help governments and stakeholders to design and develop inclusive cities and urban services that respond better to the needs of women and men — for example in resource allocation, personal safety and security, and post-conflict and disaster reconstruction.
- Addressing inequalities in land and housing (relevance: Focus Area 3) - A woman's right to land and housing is often linked to marital property and inheritance rights. UN-HABITAT is working with governments to improve policy, legal and regulatory frameworks that also respond to women's land and housing.
- Developing environmentally sound urban services (relevance: Focus Area 4) – UN-HABITAT is working to improve governance and infrastructure concerning issues such as clean drinking water, sanitation and waste management, transportation and power. It is also ensuring that women are engaged in the design, management and evaluation of these services.
- Improving finance systems for affordable housing (relevance: Focus Area 5) – UN-HABITAT is promoting programmes on financing of affordable housing and

infrastructure for the urban poor, especially women.

GENDER MAINSTREAMING

UN-HABITAT promotes women's rights, women's empowerment and gender equality within the area of housing and urban development. The organization spearheads the implementation of its gender policy with its two prolonged objectives (i) women's empowerment and (ii) gender mainstreaming in all its programmes

and activities. Emphasis is placed on advocacy, research, training and capacity development of UN-HABITAT staff, development of gender resource materials and tools, and the provision of technical advice to UN-HABITAT programmes and requesting member governments.

UN-HABITAT is building the capacity of all its programmes to deal effectively with gender issues. We are doing this through the following:



- Technical Advice and Training
- UN-HABITAT is organizing specialized training for staff on incorporating gender work in regular programming. It also publishes tools, gender analytical reports, policy briefs and best practise guides, for example in working for and with local government.
- Advocacy - UN-HABITAT promotes gender equality in projects or organizations dealing primarily with human settlements. At the same time, it promotes issues around gender, housing and urban development within the United Nations system, women's forums and organizations at the regional and international levels.
- Empowerment of women through land, housing and participation in decision-making at the local level
- UN-HABITAT promotes women security of tenure; access to housing finance; ownership of land, housing and property; by supporting Women Land Access Trusts as intermediary organizations between low-income women and critical actors such as financial institutions; relevant government departments and institutions; local authorities; the private sector; and civil society. It also promotes capacity-building for women leaders of grassroots and community-based organizations in order to work effectively with local authorities, politicians and others in dealing with pressing community problems and mobilize resources for the advancement of women at the local-level.
- Support for women networks
- UN-HABITAT supports women networks and other partners working for gender equality and women's

empowerment in housing and urban development.

SUCSESSES:

- A Gender Equality Action Plan was developed after extensive consultations with stakeholders, staff, beneficiaries and partners (such as the "Roundtable" at the latest World Urban Forum). The Gender Plan aims to strengthen UN-HABITAT work on gender equality, women's empowerment and women's rights. It relates specifically to all the focus areas in UN-HABITAT's work (as stated in our Medium-Term Strategic and Institutional Plan). The Gender Plan outlines how gender work can be included into mainstream UN-HABITAT work around housing and urban development, and how outputs and outcomes will be monitored.
- Gender indicators for all UN-HABITAT publications
– UN-HABITAT is producing and compiling statistics and gender analytical reports that show the situations of women in comparison to men, so that gender differences and inequalities could be identified and considered during policy formulation and development planning at global and country-level.
- Publications for gender training and sharing of best practises
- These include Gender in Local Government: a sourcebook for training local government; Gender mainstreaming in Local Authorities: Best Practices; and incorporation of a chapter on gender and land in Land Administration and Post-Crisis Situation.

THE GLOBAL LAND TOOL NETWORK

THE CHALLENGE

DEALING WITH LAND and tenure poses one of the most complex tasks in the world. In the developing world, it is likely that less than 30 per cent of the country is covered by cadastre, less than 2 per cent of the registered land rights are held by women, and in some cities 60 per cent of the poor live on less than 5 per cent of the land.

In 2006, UN-HABITAT established the Global Land Tool Network as a global partnership of more than 35 key global actors in the professional, development partners, research and training, technical and civil society groups, to address land reform issues. The Network consists of organizations that had identified the lack of pro-poor land tools to implement land policies.

OBJECTIVES

The Network's objective is to contribute to the attainment of the Millennium Declaration and the Millennium Development Goals, particularly on poverty alleviation, through land reform, improved land management and security of tenure.

THEMES, TOOLS

To attain the overall goal of poverty alleviation through land reform, improved land management and security of tenure, the network's partners have identified the 18 key land tools that need to be provided in order to deal with poverty and land issues at the country-level, across all regions.

LAND RIGHTS, RECORDS AND REGISTRATION

- Enumerations for tenure security
- Continuum of land rights
- Deeds or titles
- Socially appropriate adjudication
- Statutory and customary
- Co-management approaches
- Land record management for transactability
- Family and group rights

LAND USE PLANNING

- Citywide slum upgrading
- Citywide spatial planning
- Regional land use planning
- Land readjustment (slum upgrading and/or post crisis)

LAND MANAGEMENT, ADMINISTRATION AND INFORMATION

- Spatial units
- Modernizing of land agencies budget approach

LAND LAW AND ENFORCEMENT

- Regulatory framework for private sector
- Legal allocation of the assets of a deceased person (Estates administration, HIV/AIDS areas)
- Expropriation, eviction and compensation

LAND VALUE TAXATION

- Land tax for financial and land management

ENGAGEMENT WITH PARTNERS

The Network partners are global institutions responding to the following five criteria: a) The values of the Network; b) Land tool development at scale/upscaleable; c) To lend financial or knowledge input, or both; d) To represent regional/international institutions, organizations or networks; and e) Non-commercial value.

SUCCESS STORIES:

Network partners have established a gender evaluation criteria framework to enable different actors to judge whether or not a land tool is sufficiently gender responsive. The evaluation questions agreed upon through two workshops and a participatory e-forum is a concrete instrument to assess the gender sensitivity of areas such as in securing tenure, land administration, taxation systems, and dispute mechanisms when addressing housing, land and property rights. The framework will be piloted in 2009.

Transparency in Land Administration Training

The Network, working with the Training and Capacity Building Branch, has organized four cluster training events on Transparency in Land Administration in Africa which were attended by 114 “change” agents from 19 countries. Inspired by these training events, participants have made significant follow-up activities in their respective countries re-echoing the lessons learned and their learning experience. The same training for Asia is planned for 2009.

CURRENT INITIATIVES

The Network is presently focussing on three themes: knowledge management; advocacy; and capacity-building, including tool development. Knowledge management includes documentation of best practices, research and evaluation. Advocacy activities are centred on production and dissemination of advocacy materials and related publications, organizing (and participation) to land-related global workshops, conferences and meetings with an aim to get more support for the Network’s agenda and to attract more donors and key partners. Capacity-building, on the other hand, includes conduct of land related trainings; technical support to country-level initiatives; development and testing of land tools; and support to the development of land tenure indicators. The Network is also being aligned to UN-HABITAT’s Medium-Term Strategic and Institutional Plan, particularly on Focus Area 3.

FUNDING

So far, the Global Land Tool Network is being financed by UN-HABITAT, the Governments of Norway and Sweden. Other Network partners are providing technical inputs and co-financing and co-sponsoring Network-related activities.

UNITED NATIONS HOUSING RIGHTS PROGRAMME

PROGRAMME OBJECTIVES

THE UNITED NATIONS HOUSING RIGHTS PROGRAMME is a joint initiative of UN-HABITAT and the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights and has been in operation since 2002.

It supports the efforts of governments, civil society and national human rights institutions towards the progressive realization of the right to adequate housing as provided for in international human rights instruments and reaffirmed in the Habitat Agenda.

The programme promotes a rights-based approach to housing development to:

- Empower the poor and the homeless
- Promote security of tenure, especially for women and vulnerable groups in inadequate housing conditions
- Strengthen protection against forced evictions and discrimination in the housing sector
- Promote equal access to housing resources and remedies in cases of violation of housing rights

The programme mobilizes the stakeholders in the housing rights field at regional, national, and local levels. It addresses normative and operational issues contributing to the implementation of one of the two principal goals of the Habitat Agenda: adequate shelter for all.

PROGRAMME OUTPUTS

- Establishment of the web-based United Nations Housing Rights Documentation Centre where one

can find essential housing rights advocacy tools such as relevant United Nations resolutions and documents⁵ including the updated “Fact Sheet on the Right to Adequate Housing”.

- Creation of the “United Nations Housing Rights Programme Report Series” that comprises publications covering international housing rights instruments; national housing rights legislation; selected adjudication on housing rights; homelessness; and indigenous peoples’ housing rights.
- Support to the quarterly publication “Housing and ESC Rights Law”, issued by the Centre on Housing Rights and Evictions⁶
- Development of a tool for global monitoring and evaluation in the form of a set of 12 housing rights indicators and a questionnaire for governments.
- Regular support to, and collaboration with, the Special Rapporteur on the right to adequate housing.
- Support to the Advisory Group on Forced Evictions to the Executive Director of UN-HABITAT (see separate summary in this publication on p. 38).

SUCCESS

The United Nations Housing Rights Programme Documentation Centre has empowered housing rights advocates worldwide. The programme’s outputs have influenced landmark court rulings in favour of poor communities’ right to adequate housing (for example in South Africa) and have influenced

⁵ See: www.unhabitat.org/unhrp

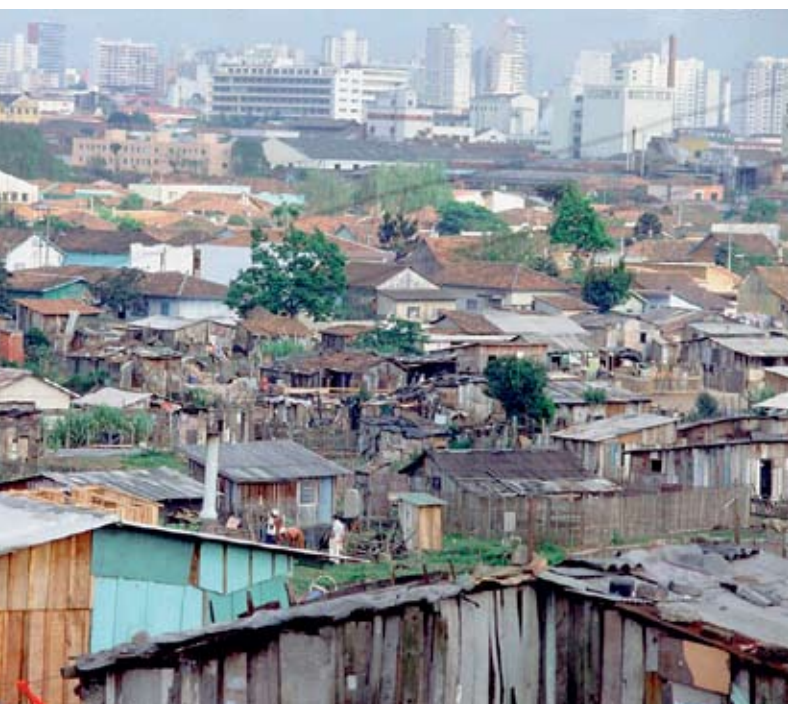
⁶ See: www.cohre.org/quarterly

constitutional reviews (for example in Ecuador). The programme's outputs are used globally as teaching materials in universities and training institutes.

PLANNED ACTIVITIES AND FUNDING NEEDS

Funding is required to carry out the following activities planned for the second phase of the programme:

- Capacity-building on housing rights at country-level, targeting national and local governments, national human rights organizations, non-governmental organizations and community-based organizations;
- Assistance to State Parties' reporting to the Treaty Bodies such as the Committee on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights and the Universal Periodic Review, to be facilitated through the use of housing rights indicators;
- Follow-up to missions of the Advisory Group on Forced Evictions and the Special Rapporteur, on adequate housing with particular focus on developing alternatives to forced evictions and improving security of tenure;
- Development of guidelines for the progressive realization of the human right to adequate housing



Photos © UN-HABITAT

THE ADVISORY GROUP ON FORCED EVICTIONS

THE GROUP WAS established by the Executive Director of UN-HABITAT in 2004 in response to a resolution by the Governing Council.⁷ Its main task is to advise the Executive Director on addressing unlawful forced evictions and to promote alternative policies that enhance the security of tenure for the millions of urban poor who live under the daily threat of forced eviction. The group comprises 15 individuals from academic, governmental, nongovernmental and community-based organizations.

THE PROBLEM

There is an increasing frequency of unlawful forced evictions worldwide and, correspondingly, in the level of

violence. In many countries, forced evictions are being practiced instead of sustainable urban planning and inclusive social policies. Unlawful forced evictions affect millions of people, many of them poor, in developing and developed countries. Forced evictions of the urban poor threaten the attainment of Millennium Development Goal 7, Target 11 that calls for the improvement of the lives of at least 100 million slum dwellers by 2020.

FOCUS

UN-HABITAT aims to reduce the number of unlawful forced evictions carried out by national and local governments worldwide. The group is a key component of UN-HABITAT's



Photos © UN-HABITAT

⁷ See: The Governing Council of UN-HABITAT in 2003 passed Resolution 19/5 which, in its article 7, "requests the Executive Director, in line with the recommendations of the World Urban Forum at its first session, to establish an advisory group to monitor and identify, and, if so requested, to promote alternatives to unlawful evictions".

Focus Area 3 that works towards the objective of “Access to land and housing for all”. One of the expected outcomes is increased security of tenure. Since often the affected populations do not have the capacity to defend their right to adequate housing effectively, UN-HABITAT’s role is to raise awareness and provide support to Governments and partners concerned with developing alternative solutions to forced eviction. The group’s advisory services contribute to achieving this objective.

SUCCESS

The group’s work has contributed to promoting awareness, information and experience exchange among partners and the general public on the issue of forced evictions and the need to identify, develop and apply alternative solutions

that can enhance the normative work of UN-HABITAT and partners.

The group’s missions have generated a highly positive impact:

- In Rome, Italy, a 12-month moratorium on forced evictions was reached
- In Curitiba, Brazil, the local authorities resettled some families and provided building materials for home construction.
- In Santo Domingo, the Dominican Republic, the key actors were brought to the negotiation table and have agreed on a law proposal for the provision of land, housing and financial services to the communities previously threatened with eviction, including development of a cooperative housing model.



Photos © UN-HABITAT

PROMOTING ADEQUATE SHELTER FOR ALL

THE CHALLENGE

BY 2050, TWO-THIRDS OF HUMANITY, that is six billion people, will be living in cities. Currently, there are an estimated one billion slum dwellers globally and if no remedial action is taken, this number is projected to rise to about two billion over the next 30 years. In many developing countries, slum dwellers already make up half of the urban population.

Slum dwellers lack one or more of the following five conditions: access to water; access to sanitation; secure tenure; durability of housing; and sufficient living area. Unless efforts are made to provide a range of affordable secure land and housing options at scale, cities will host hundreds of millions of new slum dwellers.

FOCUS

- To create the necessary conditions for concerted international and

national efforts to stabilize the growth of slums and to set the stage for the subsequent reduction in and reversal of the number of slum dwellers. UN-HABITAT works towards this objective by supporting national and local governments and Habitat Agenda Partners to implement improved land and housing policies that lead to systemic reforms that promote access to adequate shelter for all.

Key areas of intervention are (i) Supporting enabling land and housing reforms; (ii) Increasing security of tenure; (iii) Promoting slum improvement and prevention.

SOME OF THE KEY ACTIVITIES, ALL UNDERTAKEN IN A GENDER RESPONSIVE WAY, INCLUDE:

- Developing alternatives to forced eviction
- Developing new land tools to implement pro-poor land policies, promoting a range of land rights rather than just individual titles
- Strengthening the capacity of the United Nations to address housing, land and property issues in post-conflict and post-natural disaster situations
- Promoting measures to mitigate and adapt to the risk associated with global climate change

For more information, refer to the Medium-Term Strategic and Institutional Focus Area 3 Strategy Paper and Programme Document.



Newly-built permanent housing for residents of Bossaso, Somalia, 2008. Photo © UN-HABITAT

THE SHELTER PROFILE PROGRAMME

CHALLENGES

Persistent housing shortages, due to a malfunctioning housing sector, are some of the fundamental causes of slum formation in cities. The disconnection between the supply of land, infrastructure and finance, and the construction industry, propel informal settlements, slums, overcrowding and poor housing conditions.

In order to redress these shortcomings, governments will need to take stock of the performance of the housing sector in a systemic manner to disclose bottlenecks, constraints and barriers that hinder the delivery of affordable housing options, particularly for the poor. The Shelter Profile Programme addresses exactly this issue and is undertaking demonstration projects in Malawi, Senegal, Tunisia and Uganda.

SHELTER PROFILING

Shelter Profiling is a housing sector assessment tool currently being developed by UN-HABITAT to improve performance in the provision of shelter and housing. It provides governments and various stakeholders with a comprehensive analysis of housing and land delivery systems as well as the mechanisms to access land, housing finance, basic infrastructure, building materials and technology, as well as labour.

It provides evidence from the field to support the required institutional, regulatory and policy reforms at local and national levels. Shelter Profile produces knowledge through applied research, market surveys, institutional and stakeholders' analysis as well as city consultations. Therefore, it



Reconstruction after the bombing, Afghanistan. Photo © UN-HABITAT

serves as an appropriate tool to policy recommendations.

Profile reports focus on each of the fundamental inputs to shelter:

- Policy and institutional frameworks
- Housing finance and markets
- Infrastructure/basic urban services
- Urban land supply systems
- Construction industry, building materials and labour

The final Shelter Profile study report, on each country, analyzes the performance

of the housing sector as a whole.

This includes an assessment of the institutional, policy and regulatory frameworks, as well as capacity needs. It proposes the needed reforms to enable housing markets to function well and provide affordable housing options.

FUNDING

The \$791,625 programme is funded by the International Development Research Centre, Canada and Global Land Tool Network.



Deteriorated Housing of Swahili architecture in Adaale, Somalia.
Photo © UN-HABITAT



Local building material in Burkina-Faso, Burkina-Faso.
Photo © UN-HABITAT

THE PARTICIPATORY SLUM UPGRADING AND PREVENTION PROGRAMME

IMPLEMENTATION OF the Participatory Slum Upgrading and Prevention Programme for the African, Caribbean and Pacific group of States began in 2008 and is ongoing in over 30 countries.

The programme aims to contribute to meeting the Millennium Development Goal, Targets 10 and 11.

- Increasing advocacy for urban development challenges and urban poverty
- Better urban governance and management mechanisms dealing with urban growth
- Increased institutional development
- Stronger ownership of informal settlement upgrading
- Better revenue collection and municipal finance management
- An improved legislative environment
- Increased land tenure security

OBJECTIVES

- Highlight urban development issues
- Build the capacity of the target group and implementation partners

The programme consists of two phases:

- Rapid Urban Profiling for Sustainability
- Upgrading Policy Development Feasibility Studies and action plans for countries profiled.

PHASE 1: URBAN PROFILING

This phase is a rapid assessment of current urban conditions in governance, land, slums, gender, the urban environment, local economic development, basic urban services and other themes such as cultural heritage, urban security, urban disaster management and climate change, as well as municipal finance.

The assessments focus on priority needs and capacity gaps and looks at how existing institutions at local and national levels respond to urban issues.

THE ASSESSMENT GOALS ARE TO:

- Develop urban poverty reduction policies at the local, national and regional levels by assessing needs and possible response mechanisms
- Contribute to wider-ranging implementation of the Millennium Development Goals. Each assessment is based on an analysis of existing data and interviews with urban communities, urban institutions, civil society, the private sector, development partners and academics. This consultation culminates in a collective agreement on urban sector priorities, proposals for capacity-building and other projects aimed at reducing urban poverty.

Urban profiling allows for dialogue between government and non-state actors. As a result, profiling is participatory, quick, action-oriented and supports institutional development as well as capacity-building.

FUNDING

The European Union has provided four million euro for the 30 African, Caribbean and Pacific group of States: 66,000 euro of this has been allocated to Phase 1 for 18 new countries of the group: 11 in Africa, 4 in the Caribbean and 3 in the Pacific. Another 123,000 euro has been allocated to Phase 2 (feasibility studies) for 12 African countries that have complete Phase 1.



The Trust Fund for Palestinians seek to ease the difficult housing, 2007. Photo © UN-HABITAT

TRUST FUND FOR THE PALESTINIAN HOUSING PROGRAMME

THE CHALLENGE

SEEKING TO EASE the difficult housing situation in the Occupied Palestinian Territories, UN-HABITAT set up the Special Human Settlements Programme for the Palestinian People in May 2003. The organization urged the international donor community to support UN-HABITAT in the immediate mobilization of resources for a Technical Cooperation Trust Fund of \$5 million for an initial two-year period.

The programme's long-term development objective is to improve the living conditions of Palestinians with the view of contributing to peace, security and stability in the region.

FOCUS

The immediate aims were to build the required capacity to help set up a housing policy and delivery system. Therefore, the programme seeks to help:

- Build institutional capacity and strengthen coordination mechanisms;
- Promote affordable housing finance;
- Enhance the capacity of research institutions;
- Support the development of a Palestinian Human Settlements Policy;
- Establish the institutional framework for a Geographic Information System-based cadastre.

ACTIVITIES

The programme is sequenced in two phases, beginning with a Programme Definition Phase (March 2004-December 2004), designed to situate UN-HABITAT institutionally, raise funds, assess conditions and define elements. The Programme Implementation Phase (January 2005-January 2006) was designed to achieve the above-mentioned objectives.

RESULTS

The programme has been able to raise money for specific housing projects where issues of sustainability, through local economic development, job creation, cost reduction and good management will be researched and applied.

CONTRIBUTORS

The Trust Fund is supported by a number of countries, organizations or agencies, including the Saudi Committee for the Palestinian People, AL Maktoum Foundation of the United Arab Emirates, the Kingdom of Bahrain, Government of the United States of America, Sweden, as well as the UN-HABITAT Secretariat.

FOCUS AREA 4

ENVIRONMENTALLY SOUND BASIC URBAN INFRASTRUCTURE AND SERVICES

To expand access to and sustain provision of adequate clean water, improved sanitation, waste management, and environmentally sound transport and energy in urban and peri-urban areas is the intent of this focus area.



WATER AND SANITATION PROGRAMME

WATER FOR ASIAN CITIES PROGRAMME

The Water for Asian Cities Programme is a collaborative initiative between Asian countries, UN-HABITAT and the Asian Development Bank. The programme was launched on 18 March 2003 during the third World Water Forum and a Memorandum of Understanding was signed between the Bank and UN-HABITAT. The agreement envisaged \$10 million in grant funding (equally shared by UN-HABITAT and the Bank) to raise political awareness, build capacity and create an enabling environment for pro-poor investments in water and sanitation in Asian cities. The agreement also envisaged a follow-up to the Bank's plan to invest \$500 million through loans over a five-year period.

The overall objective of the Water for Asian Cities Programme is to support urban centres in Asia to meet the water and sanitation related Millennium Development Goals, by enhancing capacity at city, country and regional levels, and creating an enabling environment for new investments in the urban water and sanitation sector.

The agreement also reflects the Bank's plan to invest \$1 billion over five years in the urban water supply and sanitation sector with a focus on sanitation. These investments will be part of the water financing programme 2006-2010 announced by the Bank in March 2006 to boost investments in the sector to well over \$2 billion a year.

WATER AND SANITATION FOR CITIES IN THE LATIN AMERICAN AND THE CARIBBEAN REGION PROGRAMME

The Water and Sanitation Programme for cities in the Latin America and the

Caribbean Region is a collaborative programme of the countries of the region, the Inter-American Development Bank and UN-HABITAT. Both these institutions have entered into collaboration through a recently signed Memorandum of Understanding for the programme. The aim of this collaboration is to enhance pro-poor and sustainable investments in water and sanitation in the urban areas of the region and thereby support the countries in achieving the water and sanitation related Millennium Development.

WATER FOR AFRICAN CITIES PROGRAMME

Since 1999, the Water for African Cities programme has been supporting African cities to address the water challenges facing the continent and to protect their fresh water resources. Following the first phase in eight cities in as many countries, a 2002 review of the programme heralded the approach, and called for it to be strengthened and broadened both thematically and geographically.

The programme is being implemented in 17 cities of 14 countries with a focus on six thematic priority areas: (a) Pro-poor governance and follow-up investment; (b) Sanitation for the urban poor; (c) Urban catchment management; (d) Water demand management; (e) Water education in schools and communities; (f) Advocacy, awareness-raising, and information exchange.

THE MEKONG REGION WATER AND SANITATION PROGRAMME (MEK-WATSAN)

The MEK-WATSAN initiative is a collaborative effort between governments of the Greater Mekong



Photo © UN-HABITAT

Subregion (China, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Vietnam and Cambodia), the Asian Development Bank and UN-HABITAT. The objective of MEK-WATSAN is to assist participating countries attain their water and sanitation Millennium goals. The programme targets improved water supply and sanitation for 1.08 million people, but it is also expected to provide an enabling environment for further investments and support for the region as a whole. The programme's objective is key to sustainable urbanization and economic growth in the region through supporting the participating countries in the Greater Mekong subregion achieve their vision of enhanced connectivity, competitiveness and greater sense of community.

LAKE VICTORIA REGION WATER AND SANITATION INITIATIVE

Small urban centres in the Lake Victoria basin are playing an increasingly important role in the economic development of the region. Most of these urban centres are located along



Standpipes, such as this in Malawi, are increasing access to safe water for millions of low-income urban residents worldwide. Photo © UN-HABITAT

the trading routes, some across borders, and act as market centres for outputs and inputs of the industries relying on the lake's resources. However, rapid and unplanned growth has placed enormous pressure on the capacity of these urban centres to provide adequate water supply and sanitation services for their growing populations. Unless urgent and concerted action is taken, the widening gap between supply and demand for water and sanitation services will continue to increase significantly, curtailing prospects of achieving Millennium Development Goals for water and sanitation in the region.

UN-HABITAT, in association with the Governments of Kenya, Tanzania and Uganda, is implementing a major initiative for the water and sanitation needs of poor people living in the secondary urban towns around the Lake Victoria region. The Initiative has been designed to achieve Millennium goal targets for water and sanitation in small urban centres, taking into account the physical planning needs of these urban centres together with

attention to drainage and solid waste management as an integral part of environmental sanitation. The first phase of the initiative is meeting the needs of six towns with populations varying from 10,000 to 85,000.

GLOBAL WATER OPERATORS ALLIANCE

Ongoing reforms in the water and sanitation sector have provided opportunities for creating more efficient, customer-focused and autonomous water and sanitation utilities. However, most developing countries' utilities continue to face enormous challenges in meeting the ever-increasing demands of growing populations. They suffer from a number of interrelated institutional weaknesses, including inadequate cost recovery compounded by a low customer base and limited physical coverage, dilapidated physical infrastructure, high levels of unaccounted for water, the low skill levels of the staff and poor customer relations, among others.

Improving utilities' effectiveness (especially in serving the poor), their efficiency and sustainability is at the heart of the global water supply challenge.

The need for the establishment of a mechanism to promote Water Operators' Partnerships to provide a basis for collaboration among water utilities is highlighted in the "Hashimoto Action Plan", which was announced by the United Nations Secretary-General's Advisory Board on Water and Sanitation during the 4th World Water Forum in Mexico, in March 2006.

UN-HABITAT has taken up this challenge and has established a Global Water Operators' Partnerships Alliance Secretariat within the organization, while initiating donor consultations; support to regional Water Operators' Partnerships processes.

The strategic objectives of the Global Water Operators' Partnerships Alliance mechanism are to:

- Position the Global Water Operators' Partnerships Alliance as an efficient, effective and functional global mechanism for regional, subregional and national Water Operators' Partnerships, supported by a coalition of agencies
- Engage in advocacy for Water Operators' Partnerships in appropriate national, regional and international forums
- Facilitate and support regional, subregional and national Water Operators' Partnerships mechanisms, for improving the performance of public water utilities.
- Provide web-based and other platforms to facilitate information collection, analysis and dissemination.
- Host, promote and support a range of events directed at meeting the demands and needs of public utility members of the Alliance.

Partners: National and local governments of participating countries, the Asian Development Bank, the African Development Bank, the Inter-American Development Bank, the World Bank and other private sector.

FOCUS AREA 5

STRENGTHENED HUMAN SETTLEMENTS FINANCE SYSTEMS

The focus is to improve access to finance for homes and infrastructure, particularly for the urban poor. This will be done through innovative finance mechanisms and institutional capacity to leverage the contributions of communities, local authorities, the private sector, government and international financial institutions.

Slum Upgrading Facility Experimental Reimbursable Seeding Operations	51
Cities Alliance Funding	53
Urban Economy and Finance (also applies to Focus 1 through 4)	55
The Kenya-Italy Debt for Development Programme	56
	59
	61



SLUM UPGRADING FACILITY

FINANCING URBAN SHELTER, IMPROVING THE LIVING ENVIRONMENT

THE PROBLEM

Some one billion people, equal to one-sixth of humanity, live in slums. This phenomenon and its associated problems of poor health, nutrition and safety present enormous challenges to governments and their development partners.

FOCUS

One response to these challenges is UN-HABITAT's Slum Upgrading Facility. This approach empowers slum dwellers by involving them directly in the planning, design and implementation of actions for improving their living environment.

In the Slum Upgrading Facility, UN-HABITAT works with local actors to make slum upgrading projects "bankable" – that is, attractive to retail banks, property developers, housing finance institutions, service providers, microfinance institutions and utility

companies. The Facility has pilot projects in Ghana, Indonesia, Sri Lanka and Tanzania, where various approaches are being tested to support the purpose of the pilot programme.

The Facility is a technical cooperation and seed capital operation. Its central purpose is to test and develop new financial instruments and methods for expanding private sector finance and public sector involvement in slum upgrading. The pilots are currently funded by the governments of the United Kingdom, Norway and Sweden.

LOCAL FINANCE FACILITIES AND "FINANCE PLUS"

A key element of the Facility's pilot programme is the establishment of local financial facilities with a remit to support slum upgrading. These facilities are designed to help slum dwellers gain greater access to credit. They do so by providing credit enhancements

THE SLUM UPGRADING FACILITY HAS FOUR APPROACHES AS FOLLOWS:

1. Technical Advisory Services:

Working with low-income groups and slum-dwellers organizations as they set out their plans for residential area upgrading, home improvements and new low-income housing in such a way that potential commercial banks and finance organizations can appreciate how the proposed projects are compatible with banking business practice and constitute viable business plans.

3. Developing Financial Products:

New instruments that will enable investors to work with and provide loans to various upgrading initiatives. These products include different forms of available domestic capital and term debt financing from local currency capital markets.

2. Financial Packaging:

Taking upgrading and low-income housing projects to scale requires access to multiple forms of investment and financial instruments and products. By making plans and ideas for the slums "bankable", the Facility helps to ensure that financial structures proposed provide commercial finance institutions with the necessary confidence to lend or invest for the longer term.

4. Referral Services:

Matching identified local needs with local, regional and international institutions and resources. For example, international guarantees for project loan finance can be secured from existing international organizations set up for this purpose.

and guarantees to banks together with technical support in bringing projects to completion – hence the term, “Finance Plus”.

The unique aspect of UN-HABITAT’s technical support is the ability to bring representatives of banks together with local authorities, government agencies and the slum dwellers to blend different forms of grants, loans, public support the sweat equity of slum dwellers themselves to make commercial finance a reality for slum upgrading.

The finance facilities take the form of independent not-for-profit companies that are hosted by existing local financial bodies, such as a local bank.

Six local finance facilities are in development. Four are being promoted at the city-level in Solo and Jogjakarta in Indonesia; and the city of Tema as well as the Shama Ahanta East Metropolitan Area, both in Ghana. The fifth is being established as a national facility in Sri Lanka, and the sixth will be a joint facility within an existing national institution in Tanzania.



Photos © UN-HABITAT

THE EXPERIMENTAL REIMBURSABLE SEEDING OPERATIONS TRUST FUND

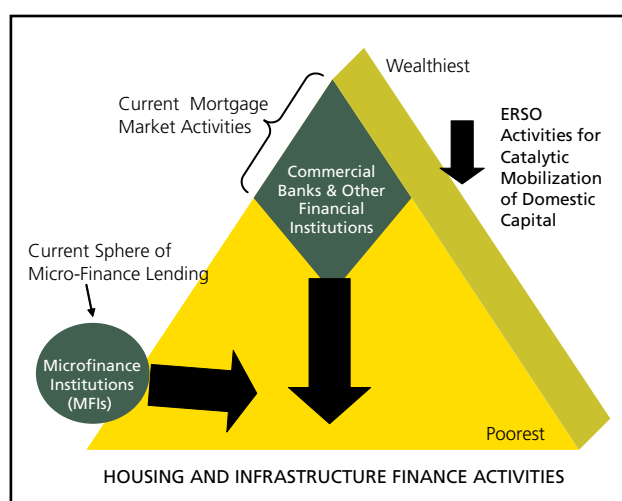
In April 2007, the Governing Council of UN-HABITAT adopted resolution 21/10 on “Strengthening the Habitat and Human Settlements Foundation: experimental financial mechanisms for pro-poor housing and infrastructure”.

The resolution requests the Executive Director to establish a trust fund for a four-year experimental period from 2007 to 2011 to support the implementation of experimental reimbursable seeding operations (ERSO) and other innovative financial operations. With the implementation of this resolution, UN-HABITAT responds to the challenge of finding innovative solutions for affordable housing to address the problem of growing slum populations and contribute to poverty alleviation and better health.

The purpose of the activities finance by the trust fund is to:

- Field-test experimental reimbursable seeding operations and other innovative operations for financing pro-poor housing, infrastructure and upgrading through community groups; and
- Strengthen the capacity of local financial and development actors to carry out those operations and to support the capacity of the United Nations Human Settlements Programme to enhance those operations.

ERSO DELIVERY MODEL AND PARTNERS



The mobilization of domestic capital lies at the heart of the Experimental Reimbursable Seeding Operations Trust Fund. Projects are being designed to catalyze domestic investment capital and domestic savings through the provision of seed capital, other innovative financial mechanism, including credit enhancements; and technical assistance in a comprehensive and structured financial package.

DELIVERY MODEL

The Fund will provide seed capital in the form of loans or credit enhancements to domestic financial institutions (banks, microfinance institutions). This is to

enable loans for low-income housing, upgrading and infrastructure, in combination with technical assistance, to catalyze investments in pro-poor housing, related infrastructure and upgrading, in close partnerships with national and local governments and support by local intermediaries. The target groups for the fund's products are either low-income clients themselves or actors involved in the provision of lower income shelter.

TARGETS

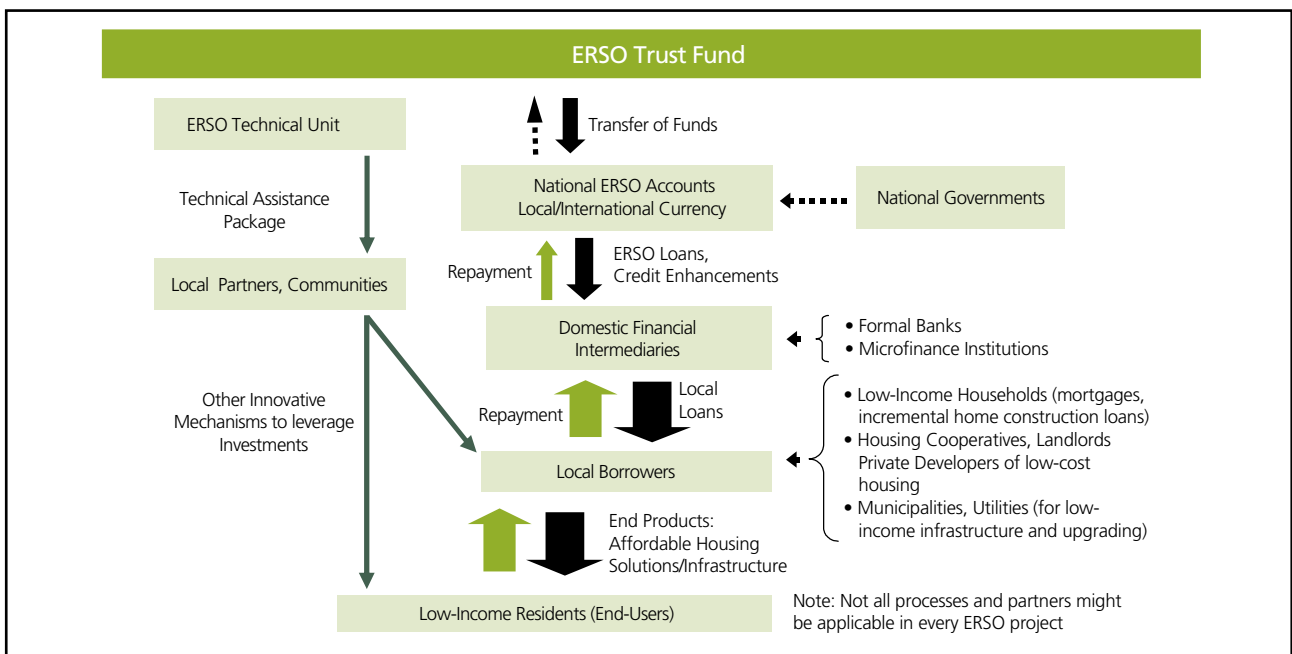
The Experimental Reimbursable Seeding Operations Trust Fund plans to test 8-12 operations in total with 2 or 3 in each of the four target regions Africa, Asia, Eastern Europe and countries with

economies in transition, as well as and Latin America and the Caribbean.

The target for the total volume of each operation is between US \$2 million and \$5 million. With an envisaged trust fund contribution to each operation of up to \$1.5 million, and typically between \$0.5 million and \$1 million; it is expected that a mobilization ratio between 1:1 and 1:4 can be achieved.

At the end of the experimental activities in 2011, an evaluation will be conducted, which will guide further decisions by the Governing Council in 2011 on potential future applications of the experimental activities.

ERSO TWO-TIER APPROACH FOR MOBILIZATION OF DOMESTIC CAPITAL FOR AFFORDABLE HOUSING AND BASIC INFRASTRUCTURE



CITIES ALLIANCE PROGRAMME

THE CITIES ALLIANCE is a global coalition of cities and their development partners committed to scaling up successful approaches to poverty reduction. This requires working with governments that are best placed to improve the living conditions of the greatest numbers of the urban poor.

The Alliance is applying a Medium-Term Strategy, covering 2008-2010, whose goal is “for the Cities Alliance to increase its contribution to systemic change and to scale”.⁸

THE ALLIANCE:

- Brings cities together in a direct dialogue with bilateral and multilateral agencies and financial institutions
- Promotes the developmental role of local governments; helps cities of all sizes to obtain more coherent international support
- By promoting the positive impacts of urbanization, helps local authorities plan and prepare for future growth
- Helps cities develop sustainable financing strategies and attract long-term capital investments for infrastructure and other services

THE ALLIANCE SUPPORTS:

- City development strategies
- Citywide and nationwide slum upgrading (in line with Goal 7, Target 11 of the Millennium Development Goals)

Both these activities require sustainable financing strategies so that the cities can attract long-term capital investments.

Alliance members are:

- Slum Dwellers International;
- Local authorities, represented by United Cities and Local Governments and Metropolis;
- Australia, Brazil, Canada, Chile, Ethiopia, France, Germany, Italy, Japan, Netherlands, Nigeria, Norway, Philippines, South Africa, Spain, Sweden, United Kingdom and United States of America;
- Asian Development Bank, European Union, United Nations Environment Programme, UN-HABITAT and the World Bank.

FUNDING:

So far, the Alliance has committed \$88 million over 10 years.

⁸ See: <http://www.citiesalliance.org/publications/homepage-features/oct-08/ar-08.html>
Also see: The UN-HABITAT Country Activities Report 2009

FUNDING

UN-HABITAT's GOVERNING COUNCIL approves the organization's work programme and budget every two years. Most of the funding comes from government and inter-governmental donor voluntary contributions, while United Nations member States provide the regular budget.

Local authorities, the private sector, multilateral organizations and other United Nations bodies provide funds for specific projects termed earmarked or non-core activities.

MAIN FUNDING SOURCES ARE:

- The United Nations regular budget. This represents core funding that the



Ambassador Elisabeth Jacobsen of Norway and UN-HABITAT's Executive Director, Mrs. Anna Tibajuka during the signing ceremony of the funding agreement to support UN-HABITAT's programmes. Photo © UN-HABITAT

TOP 10 FUNDERS OF UN-HABITAT FOUNDATION FOR 2008 (TOTAL CONTRIBUTIONS = US \$164,212,703)

Core Contributions			Earmarked Contributions			Total Contributions		
2008			2008			2008		
\$31,494,238			\$132,718,465			\$164,212,703		
Sources	%		Sources	%		Sources	%	
UN Regular Budget	37%		1 Japan	12%		1 Spain	11%	
1 Norway	27%		2 Spain	12%		2 Norway	11%	
2 Sweden	9%		3 United Kingdom	8%		3 Japan	10%	
3 Spain	8%		4 Norway	7%		4 United Kingdom	7%	
4 Netherlands	5%		5 Sweden	6%		5 Regular budget	7%	
5 United Kingdom	5%		6 European Union	5%		6 Sweden	7%	
6 United States of America	3%		7 Canada	2%		7 European Union	4%	
7 Finland	2%		8 Egypt	1%		8 Canada	2%	
8 France	1%		9 Italy	1%		9 Netherlands	2%	
9 Bahrain	1%		10 Netherlands	1%		10 United States	1%	
10 Others	1%		Others	44%		Others	38%	

United Nations Secretariat provides with the approval of the General Assembly

- United Nations Habitat and Human Settlements Foundation general purpose contributions. Governments and other donors provide these non-earmarked (core) funds. The money is allotted, based on the priorities agreed to by the UN-HABITAT Governing Council.
- Technical cooperation contributions. Funds received for implementing specific technical cooperation projects and from which UN-HABITAT realises some overhead income.

THE REGULAR BUDGET

The General Assembly appropriations for the budget are in these major categories:

- Human settlements
- Regular programme of technical cooperation, for sectoral advisory services in the field of human settlements

FOUNDATION GENERAL PURPOSE CONTRIBUTIONS

Contributions to the Foundation are:

- General Purpose funds. These are non-earmarked voluntary contributions from governments to implement UN-HABITAT's approved work programmes.
- Special Purpose contributions. These derive from governments and other donor funding for the implementation of earmarked activities in the work programme that are in-line with UN-HABITAT's mandate.

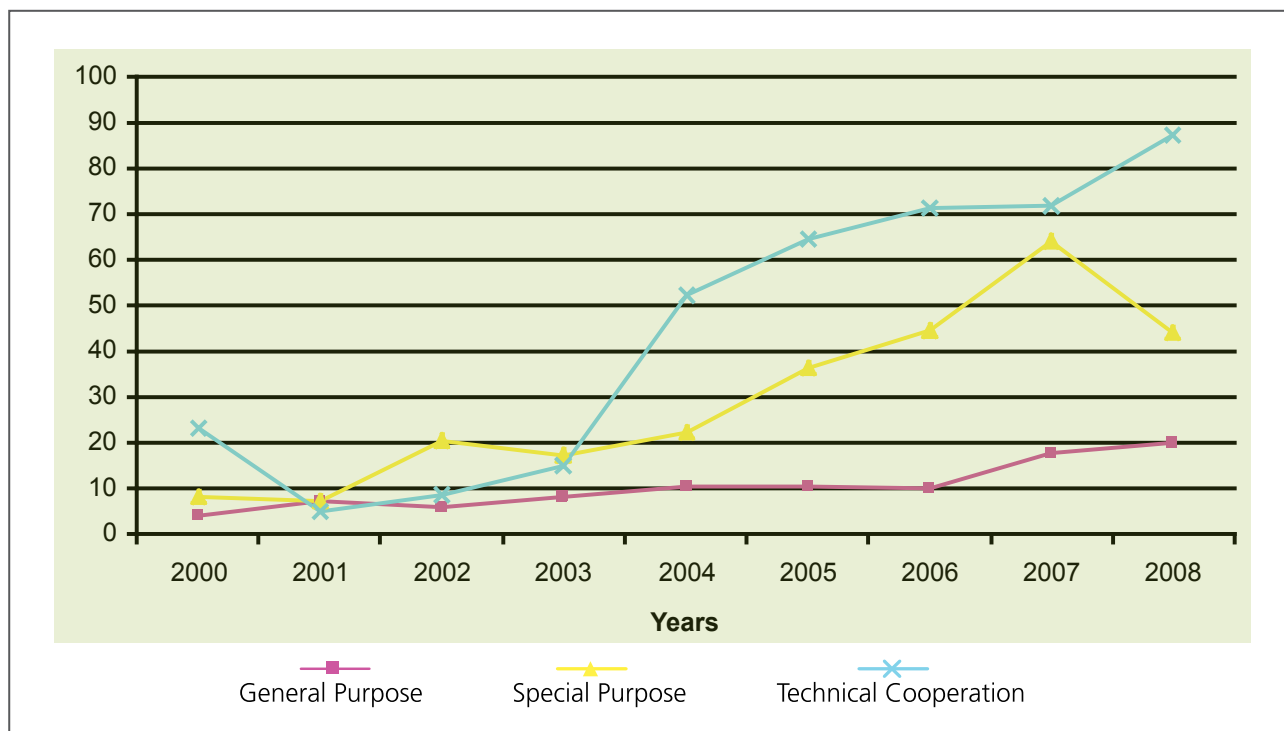
TECHNICAL COOPERATION CONTRIBUTIONS

Governments and other donors provide these earmarked contributions for the implementation of specific technical country-level activities, consistent with UN-HABITAT's mandate and work programme.



Photo © UN-HABITAT

TREND OF DONOR CONTRIBUTION 2000 TO 31 DECEMBER 2008 (MILLIONS OF US DOLLARS)



DONOR CONTRIBUTION 2000-2008 (USD MILLION)

Year	General Purpose	Special Purpose	Technical Cooperation	Total
2000	4	8	23	36
2001	7.21	7.35	5.14	12.48
2002	6.00	20.54	8.79	29.34
2003	8.31	17.24	15.16	32.40
2004	10.51	22.19	52.49	74.68
2005	10.54	36.51	64.41	100.92
2006	10.17	44.52	71.39	115.91
2007	17.58	64.06	71.63	135.68
2008	20.02	44.27	87.08	131.35

URBAN ECONOMY AND FINANCE PROGRAMME



Photo © X. Zhang/UN-HABITAT

THE CHALLENGE

The urbanization of poverty is one of the largest challenges to mankind. The persistent problems of poverty and slums are largely due to the weak urban economy. Urban economic development and finance are fundamental to achieve all aspects of UN-HABITAT's vision and mandate.

The Urban Economy and Finance Programme promote urban economic development strategies and policies that enable cities to act as engines of economic development and as centres of resources for human settlements development. It provides an analytical focus on the urban economy, its relationship to the national and global economy, as well as its relationship to housing and urban development. The programme focuses on poverty reduction and promotes policies, strategies and tools which enhance the productivity of cities.

FOCUS AREAS INCLUDE:

- Poverty reduction through urban-rural linkages, income generation, private-public partnership and the role of the informal sector.
- Promotion of productive and inclusive cities by exploring how to make cities more economically productive and socially inclusive. The initiative develops growth strategies that utilize the resources of the public, private and civic sectors in economic and human settlements development.
- Affordable housing finance systems by devising mechanisms and systems by which an adequate and steady flow of long-term financial resources, from the public and private sectors, could be mobilized and channeled into human settlements development, particularly in low-income housing development and slum upgrading.



Photo © X. Zhang/UN-HABITAT

- Sustainable municipal finance systems through fiscal decentralization to fund increasing functional responsibilities.
- Mobilizing financial resources through increasing revenue sources and utilizing capital markets.
- Exploring new tools and instruments of attracting private investment in financing and delivery of urban public services.
- Improving municipal financial management capacity. Devising effective and efficient institutional and regulatory reform for sustainable municipal finance systems.
- Promotion of community-based initiatives in local economic development and housing, by emphasizing community-based and cooperative approaches. These are central to creating, developing and sustaining the capacities of the poor and grassroots communities in meeting their needs for housing, poverty reduction and urban services.
- Promotion of public-private partnership and private investment in local economic development, housing and infrastructure development. It is extremely important to catalyze new institutional partnerships between UN-HABITAT and external agencies, and between governments and the private sector. The Partnership for Economic Development Initiative identifies and facilitates the development of partnership to enhance the role of cities as engines of economic development.
- Improvement of the capacities of cities in economic development and financial management.



Photos © X. Zhang/UN-HABITAT

THE KENYA-ITALY DEBT FOR DEVELOPMENT PROGRAMME



Photo © UN-HABITAT

THE CHALLENGE

This 44-million euro, 10-year programme signed in January 2006 aims at converting Kenya's debt to Italy into money for the implementation of development projects. It is a debt-for-development swap.

OBJECTIVE

The objective is to assist Kenya achieve sustainable economic growth, increase employment and alleviate poverty through a bottom-up approach. The programme supports Kenya in education (vocational training), health, water and slum upgrading. These are all in line with the country's own national policies.

SLUM UPGRADING

The slum upgrading components support that of the country's programme known as KENSUP. The Italian programme aims to upgrade the Korogocho slum.

Korogocho is one of the largest slums

in Nairobi, composed of eight villages covering about 40 hectares. The settlement is characterized by congestion and high unemployment.

The other components of the Italian programme are:

Education (Vocational training): Supporting Kenya revitalize its youth polytechnics. The programme will fund projects in capacity-building, curriculum development, the provision of equipment as well as infrastructure rehabilitation.

Health: Improving the access to basic health services in rural and urban areas through implementation of community health projects.

Water: The Italian programme supports community-driven development projects in the upgrading of water supply systems such as wells, bore holes, dams, piped water systems as well as implementing capacity-building activities focusing on sanitation and water management.



Photo © UN-HABITAT

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FOR A BETTER URBAN FUTURE

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