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# BROCHURE FOR THE FORTHCOMING CATALOGUE OF SERVICES

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**UN**  **HABITAT**  
FOR A BETTER URBAN FUTURE



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# Section 01

## Introduction

This Brochure provides an overview of the forthcoming detailed Catalogue of Services. This Catalogue provides a sampling of how UN-Habitat can support partners to solve challenges and advance sustainable urban development but does not capture all of UN-Habitat’s services, expertise and tools.

### The context for this Catalogue

Sustainable urbanization has the potential to be a transformative force and can help us to accelerate the achievement of the **2030 Agenda and its Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs)**. Regions and cities are also demonstrating that they are on the frontline of finding tangible solutions to address the climate emergency and to maximize the positive contribution of increasing migration flows.

While the Goals focus on what the world needs to achieve, the **New Urban Agenda** is focused on how to achieve it, and offers an integrated way to scale impact and fast-track acceleration towards the SDGs. The New Urban Agenda is also key to the fulfilment of the Goals and targets of other agendas, all of which have important urban and territorial dimensions. The New Urban Agenda offers significant opportunities **to increase coherence and coordination to improve whole of government and whole of society action, working collectively on the four fundamental drivers of change**, namely: (a) developing and implementing urban policies at the appropriate level; (b) strengthening urban governance; (c)

reinventing long-term and integrated urban and territorial planning and design; and (d) supporting effective, innovative and sustainable financing frameworks and instruments.

The SDGs contain an integrated set of Goals and targets. The achievement of the targets under Sustainable Development Goal 11 (“**Make cities and human settlements inclusive, safe, resilient and sustainable**”) – to get cities right – has a transformative impact on the achievements of targets under other Goals (see figure I). There are also several “urban-critical” targets under other Goals that are essential to the attainment of good urbanization (see figure II).

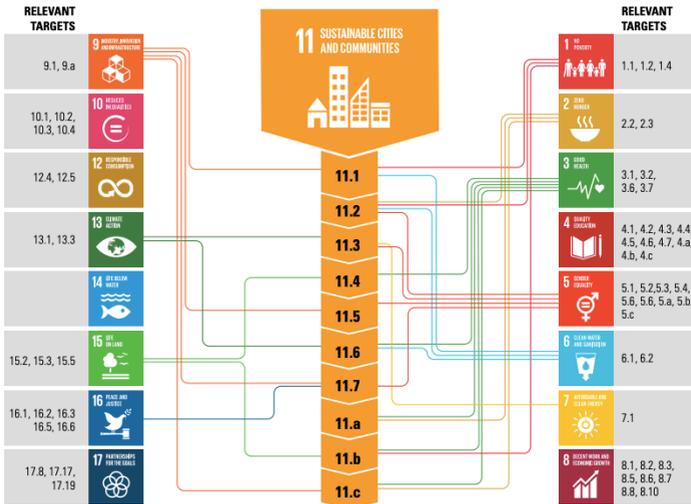


Figure I Interlinkages between Sustainable Development Goal 11 and the other Goals



Figure II “Urban-critical” Sustainable Development Goals and targets

It is increasingly understood that achieving the Goals requires their localization, and collaboration with local actors, including local governments, and that within cities the localization of the Goals can be most effective.

The UN system-wide strategy on sustainable urban development and UN-Habitat's Strategic Plan 2020-2023, put forward four overarching expected strategic results:

1. Reduced spatial inequality and poverty in communities across the urban -rural continuum
2. Enhanced shared prosperity of cities and regions
3. Strengthened climate action and improved urban environment
4. Effective urban crisis prevention and response

UN-Habitat has, within its mandate, identified three key outcomes needed to deliver each of these strategic results. They are also the basis for a coherent and strategic collaboration with other UN Agencies and other strategic partners. This Catalogue provides examples of how to use UN-Habitat's expertise and experience and its convening capacity in an integrated way. Specific challenges can be translated into a more transformative approach maximizing impact across different outcomes (e.g. managing more compact urban growth helps to reduce emissions, improve air quality and protect ecological assets). UN-Habitat's Strategic Plan 2020-2023 complements this Catalogue as it frames how UN-Habitat can assist in achieving these outcomes.

## Who is this Catalogue for?

This Catalogue is intended for country-level officials, such as political and technical senior officers at line ministries at the country level; city level officials, such as mayors and the heads of relevant technical departments at the city level; and funding partners, such as heads and programme officers from multi-lateral and bilateral donors (including vertical funds and bilateral development agencies). It will also be useful for UN Resident Coordinators in countries where sustainable urbanization is seen as an important development issue and identified as an area of focus in the Common Country Analysis (CCA) and the UN Sustainable Development Cooperation Frameworks (UNSDCF). This Catalogue can also be used by other stakeholders and partners to identify areas of support and collaboration with UN-Habitat.



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## How is the Catalogue organized?

This Catalogue is organized in the following sections: **Section I: Introduction** provides an overview of what is offered and how these services can contribute to the realization of the Sustainable Development Goals, and other global commitments for instance, to work on climate change, refugees, and migration. **Section II: Our support to national governments, local governments, and stakeholders** includes an overview of UN-Habitat's tried and tested services and offerings. UN-Habitat regularly receives requests for assistance to address particular challenges faced by cities, regions and countries, so this section is divided into sub-sections that allow readers to quickly locate services that would be most relevant for their context. The sub-sections are clustered in the following themes:

- A** Urban data, profiling, and monitoring
- B** Participatory processes
- C** Policy, legislation, and governance
- D** Planning and design
- E** Land, housing, and shelter

- F** Basic services and infrastructure
- G** Economy and finance
- H** Cities and climate change
- I** Capacity-building

Finally, **Section III: Our Flagship Programmes**, provides details on UN-Habitat's recently launched global Flagship Programmes, which utilize and build on the tested experience and tools highlighted in Section II while bringing together a global ecosystem of partners and UN organizations for scaled-up impact. This section is divided into five sub-sections to elaborate the specific focuses and distinctions of each Flagship. These sub-sections are:

**Flagship 1:** Inclusive, vibrant neighbourhoods and communities

**Flagship 2:** People-focused smart cities

**Flagship 3:** Resilient settlements for the urban poor (RISE UP)

**Flagship 4:** Enhancing the positive impact of urban migration

**Flagship 5:** SDG cities

## Which services to use and how to combine them: Tags for each offering

As clients identify their challenges and their pathways to achieve the Sustainable Development Goals, the offerings have been tagged to facilitate a more integrated approach, combining different services, which allows to maximize impact across SDGs and desired outcomes.

Each entry in this Catalogue is classified through tags based on the following topics, to allow for ease of use:

- **The Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs):** Each item indicates which set of SDG targets the service specifically advances in order to demonstrate the best fit with prioritized and targeted development strategies.
- **Domains of Change and Outcome areas (UN-Habitat's Strategic Plan):** UN-Habitat offers expertise and services to “advance sustainable urbanization as a driver of development and peace, to improve living conditions for all”. The right combination of services will allow delivery across the relevant outcome areas for each specific context.

In addition, extra tags are used to highlight:

- **High COVID-19 relevance:** While all items in the Catalogue will support a sustainable and inclusive recovery in the context of this pandemic, items that are particularly relevant for short-term and medium-term COVID-19 response and recovery indicates this level of “high” relevance.
- **Capacity building:** Each service that contains a capacity building element will indicate this tag. Readers will find capacity building services throughout the Catalogue addressing various challenges, as well as specific capacity building offerings in Sub-section I.

These services can be delivered in a tailored way considering the diversified needs of countries and cities around the world. UN-Habitat can mobilize its global and regional expertise for direct assistance or implement jointly with a broad network of global and local partners. UN-Habitat is also expanding its strategic partnerships with other UN agencies for a stronger One UN approach. Lastly, in line with UN-Habitat's capacity development strategy, UN-Habitat is focusing increasingly on knowledge transfer by offering its services online, combining online learning with help-desk functions.

## Sustainable urbanization in the COVID-19 context

This Catalogue comes during the unprecedented global challenge of the COVID-19 pandemic. Many governments have recognized the importance of using COVID-19 response and recovery efforts to mobilize progress toward achieving the SDGs and sustainable, circular economies. Additionally, the pandemic has exacerbated and revealed systemic urbanization challenges and spatial inequalities which define its health and socio-economic impact. Thus, the services offered in this cCatalogue can contribute to better preparedness and increased resilience against multiple hazards, such as future pandemics or the climate emergency. Services and offerings with specific relevance to COVID-19 are tagged as such, and are applicable within the first 18 months of response and recovery.

## Tailor-made solutions

UN-Habitat is here to support a better, sustainable urban future that leaves no one and no place behind. Please do not hesitate to reach out to UN-Habitat for further information about any of these services, and to discuss how UN-Habitat can tailor a solution to your specific challenges, needs, timeline, and goals.





## Section 02

# Our support to national governments, local authorities, and stakeholders

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## A. Urban data, profiling, and monitoring

### A.1. Urban and spatial profiling

**Assessments of cities or neighbourhoods offer a deeper understanding of the natural and built environment and existing dynamics, allowing for evidence-based guidance on future actions and priorities for interventions.** Profiling presents multisectoral, multicohort, spatialized data that is analysed within an area-based framework to help build national databases of comparable data; to guide humanitarian, development, and local government actors on strategic actions; and to inform coordination and programming among other outcomes. This service uses participatory and field-oriented approaches, integrating a capacity building tool for local stakeholders to facilitate informed decision making that engender community ownership and buy-in, ultimately improving social cohesion.

### A.2. Innovative city-wide slum profiling and enumeration

**An innovative city-wide data gathering approach for collecting settlement-level data and detailed household information on land tenure, housing, basic services and socio-economic data.** This approach employs a set of tools that are inclusive, affordable and participatory which ultimately produce evidence-based information towards the development and implementation of pro-poor and inclusive urban plans, policies, and programmes. With this information (which can easily be kept up-to-date), cities are able to appropriately plan strategic improvements of informal settlements regarding tenure, housing, settlement plans, open spaces, provision of utilities and services and infrastructure.

### A.3. Urban migration profiles

**Comprehensive assessments of the status of migration governance at the urban level.** Urban Migration Profiles shape a sound evidence base on migration in cities by providing an overview on 1) the migration situation and current governance developments both at national and local level; 2) mapping of all relevant stakeholders; 3) mapping of the respect for immigrants' human rights and their access to services, especially housing rights; and 4) tailored priorities to be addressed by the local authorities and with the support of local stakeholders.

### A.4. City resilience profiling

**An approach that allows cities to build up their resilience profiles and subsequently, develop resilience strategies.** Using the city resilience profiling tool, UN-Habitat supports local governments to lead the change process necessary to address resilience challenges in their cities through broad and cross-sector data collection, diagnosis and assessment of resilience, stakeholder engagement and action planning, and preparations for investments. The support is flexible and tailored to adapt to the diverse challenges that all cities may face. The main outputs of the process are the Recommendations or Actions for Resilience.

## B. Participatory processes

### B.1. Block-by-Block: Co-creating safe, inclusive, and accessible public spaces

**An innovative approach that employs community meetings, presentations, site visits, and, very importantly, the site design workshop using the video game Minecraft as a tool, to help the community visualize public space planning and design.** Minecraft is best described as "digital Lego" where participants can get creative and build structures in a three-dimensional world. This service builds on placemaking, which is a collaborative people-centred approach for planning, designing and managing public spaces, building local capacity and leadership to empower communities.

### B.2. City resilience action planning

**A participatory planning process to build urban resilience in small to intermediate cities, or neighbourhoods in larger cities.** The tool facilitates a broad dialogue and quick technical assessment to identify vulnerabilities and risks against all possible hazards. The final output is a City Resilience Framework for Action (RFA), which identifies priority actions to progressively build the city's resilience.

### B.3. Urban planning in protracted crisis contexts

**Technical advice towards the improvement of living conditions and management of existing human settlements and the creation of cooperative frameworks to implement sustainable strategies in urban crisis settings.** By supporting the connection of normative to operational work, and by promoting durable spatial development and investment solutions, UN-Habitat aims to bridge the gap between humanitarian and development actors, and to support local governance and institutional development.

#### **B.4. Building participatory accountability systems on city policies**

**Innovative online tools to support feedback loops with citizens on city policies, expanding the space for citizen participation and participatory accountability.** They are supported by the development of partnerships with different city stakeholders. A process of training and capacity building needs assessment allows also a more participatory approach to translating policies into action.

### **C. Policy, legislation, and governance**

#### **C.1. Housing, land, and property rights for peaceful societies**

**Support to functioning housing, land and property (HLP) institutions and strong legal frameworks enabling security of tenure.** As prolonged or intermittent conflict tends to fracture and incapacitate, if not destroy, a nation's housing, land and property framework, governments as well as humanitarian and development actors often require assistance in rebuilding and strengthening HLP institutions and legal frameworks in the post-conflict period. This service supports government and international stakeholders by providing assistance that can be categorized into three areas: (1) increase knowledge of the HLP institutional and legal framework, including risk identification and treatment options, via research and reporting; (2) support a process for HLP rights legal reform; (3) build capacity of government institutions and international actors via knowledge sharing, legal consultation and advising.

#### **C.2. Planning legal frameworks for sustainable societies**

**Support to national and local governments in assessing and reforming their urban planning legislative and governance frameworks to develop a solid context for participatory urban planning and rights-based approaches to development.** Urban development can result in increased inequalities, declining economic productivity, and vulnerability to climate change if not underpinned by coherent policy, legal and governance frameworks. This service utilizes methodologies and tools such as the "Planning Law Assessment Framework", a diagnostic tool to benchmark legislative quality and identify the strengths and weaknesses in planning regulatory frameworks, and training packages on legal drafting and regulatory quality, policy and legislation and planning law.

#### **C.3. National and Sub-national Urban Policies**

**Expert guidance and capacity development for national and sub-national governments to develop, implement, and monitor and evaluate National Urban Policies (NUPs) and Sub-national Urban Policies (SUPs).** These policies can serve as core instruments to harness the potential of urbanization and drive sustainable development and the improvement of living standards. This guidance includes thematic companions focused on mainstreaming food systems, addressing climate change, and integrating migration into NUPs.

#### C.4. Spatial development framework

**Technical support for the grounding of National Urban Policies or similar national development policies/ strategies in the territory and the formulation of subsequent action plans.** The Spatial Development Framework (SDF) is a participatory territorial planning method to assist national, regional and local governments to make spatially informed strategic decisions to achieve policies, plans or strategies. UN-Habitat deploys this tool to support the identification of a system of cities in a given territory based on a socio-economic and spatial analysis, and for prioritization of investments in the territory to better guide the urbanization process.

#### C.5. Leaving no place behind: Strengthening urban-rural linkages

**Strengthening urban-rural linkages by enhancing capacities of policy-makers and change agents at all levels to collect and use evidence for fostering cross-sectoral, multi-level frameworks, strategies, and action plans for integrated and inclusive territorial development.** UN-Habitat deploys the *Urban-Rural Linkages: Guiding Principles (URL-GP) and Framework for Action to Advance Integrated Territorial Development* to help shape strategies, policies and plans for sustainable integrated urban and territorial development. The accompanying Framework for Action helps build an enabling environment for more inclusive and functional urban-rural linkages and offers practical suggestions that can be adapted to diverse contexts.

#### C.6. Policy, law, and governance for climate smart cities

**Strengthening urban policies, law and governance in order to establish cities' resilience and adaptation to climate change and impact their greenhouse gas emissions.** These policies, laws, and governance frameworks define where land, infrastructure, and basic services can be built; lay out rules for planning and decision-making; and set the context within which urban authorities, local governments, and communities are expected to fulfil their mandate and react to emerging challenges. This service utilizes the *Law and Climate Change Toolkit* to support countries and local governments in reviewing and reforming their policy, legal and governance frameworks, in order to implement their Nationally Determined Contributions under the Paris Agreement.

#### C.7. Urban law for informal settlements upgrading and prevention

**Support to identifying the legal constraints for slum prevention and upgrading, with the goal of ensuring the right to security of tenure, to an adequate standard of living, and the right to water and sanitation for the urban poor.** Informal settlements are outside the regulations on land-use, buildings permission, and infrastructure and service provision. They are often situated on illegally occupied land, with no infrastructure or basic services. Many people live in informal settlements because of the high cost of 'formal' housing – including the cost of getting a legal land title, receiving permissions to develop buildings, and meeting rules and regulations on land-use, buildings, and infrastructure and service provision. This service helps to build an understanding of the adequacy of the policy and legal framework to support or hinder the development of affordable housing and informal settlements upgrading efforts.

## D. Planning and design

### D.1. Integrating global goals into urban development plans

**Support and expertise to develop integrated urban development and statutory plans that reflect New Urban Agenda principles and further the achievement of the SDGs.** These plans guide the spatial development of cities and settlements, and scenarios for projected growth, and future projects to cater to the needs of residents, covering different sectors like housing, transport, basic services and social amenities. They also include a component on implementation to identify agencies responsible for carrying out the projects, phasing, and monitoring of progress.

### D.2. Rapid planning studios

**Compressed planning workshops that integrate the three fundamental pillars - urban legislation, urban finance and economy, and urban planning and design - of sustainable urban development.** Through expert UN-Habitat facilitation, Rapid Planning Studios (RPS) reproduce the full planning process in a three-day format and aims to strengthen planning capacity and to provide a straightforward planning methodology and actionable roadmap to supply serviced land for rapid urban growth.

### D.3. City-scale plan assessment tool

**Support to analyzing a city's masterplan to assess its strengths and weaknesses.** Incomplete or outdated plans without clear vision, goals and prioritized projects can lead to unplanned and unsustainable growth of cities, exacerbating spatial inequality, urban sprawl, informal settlements and environmental degradation. Deployment of the Assessment Tool will help to gauge the strengths and gaps in existing city plans to meet the SDG targets, following New Urban Agenda principles.

### D.4. Promoting inclusive, accessible public space as a cornerstone of sustainable urbanization

**Policy advice, capacity building, knowledge sharing and guidance and support to local authorities and their stakeholders for inclusive and safe public space development, regeneration and improvement.** This process is enriched by best practices and policies from its global network of partner organizations. This service maps public spaces and works with cities to develop city-wide public space strategies and urban development frameworks, and supports the tracking of SDG indicator 11.7.

### D.5. Planning for healthy cities

**Support to urban leaders, decision-makers, health and planning professionals on integrated planning and design approaches placing eco-social health and well-being at the centre of development strategies.** This involves building the capacity of local authorities and stakeholders to deploy planning principles to meet local needs through feasible and health-centred design. These planning approaches focus on urban environments as catalysts to enable healthier lifestyles for residents, reducing inequality while promoting environmental health.

## **D.6. Participatory incremental urban planning**

**A step-by-step methodology to support the local governments of small and intermediate cities in developing countries to implement the principles of the New Urban Agenda and the SDGs in urban planning practices.** It guides users through a participatory and incremental process divided in phases, blocks and activities, utilizing tried and tested methods to build local capacity and ownership. Based on the objective, the available capacities, and the urban planning framework, local governments can adjust and follow a tailored path to achieve sustainable urban development for and with inclusive communities.

## **E. Land, housing, and shelter**

### **E.1. National housing strategies**

**Technical advisory services to national and local governments through the analysis of the housing delivery systems at the city and national levels and preparing Housing Sector Profiles.** UN-Habitat also offers assistance to develop National Housing Strategies and to support housing policy design and implementation. Successful housing sector analysis, policy reforms, and re-evaluations of national housing policies have thus far been conducted in 43 countries.

### **E.2. Forced eviction prevention and eviction impact assessments**

**Advocacy for the development of policies and laws requiring thorough social and economic impact assessments for activities that may result in eviction, and participatory processes to discuss relocation plans, as well as alternatives to evictions.** Together with partners such as OHCHR, UN-Habitat also offers normative tools to support national and local authorities in considering alternatives to eviction and to conduct sound Eviction Impact Assessment. These include the Handbook: Assessing the Impact of Eviction (2014); Losing Your Home: Assessing the Impact of Eviction (2011); and Alternative to Forced Eviction and Slum Demolition (2016).

### **E.3. Pro-poor, low-cost land information system**

**Building on the development of the Social Tenure Domain Model (STDM), a land information system based on open and free software packages and implemented through participatory approaches.** UN-Habitat provides services on the development of information systems towards: (a) digital capture, recording and analysis of land rights, land use, land value and tax, and land related development (b) digital workflows, client service and institutional processes for efficient service delivery; and (c) digital inventory of assets, housing, buildings, open spaces, public lands, etc. for planning and management purposes.

### **E.4. Support for sustainable, affordable housing**

**Support for sustainable, affordable housing, tying together two important goals of the 2030 Agenda: SDG 11 and SDG 12 on “Sustainable Cities and Communities” and “Responsible Consumption and Production” respectively.** UN-Habitat’s free SHERPA tool allows partners to design and implement housing-related projects underpinned by strong and solid considerations for sustainability aspects. It analyses housing projects at the household, neighbourhood, and territorial scales, as well as the processes involved in inception and design in order to deliver a rating based on the economic, environmental, cultural and social sustainability of the project.

## **E.5. Durable solutions for internally displaced populations and vulnerable communities in cities**

**Addressing urban sprawl, overcrowding, and informality caused by influxes of people (such as returnees, IDPs), and also impacting extremely vulnerable members of host communities.** The service can be tailored to locations' needs and populations, and can include area-based spatial planning, decent living through mixed-shelter solutions, improved sustainable housing solutions through rental subsidy integration with traditional livelihood initiatives and Housing, Land and Property (HLP) services, and improved local technical capacities on durable solutions, among others. This support can integrate many of UN-Habitat's other services to address challenges faced by these vulnerable groups and reduce spatial inequality.

## **F. Basic services and infrastructure**

### **F.1. Sustainable waste management**

**Design and implementation of solid waste management strategies, including resource recovery from municipal waste and generation of energy from organic waste.** A special emphasis is placed on delivering waste management services with equitable access to all, especially for the urban poor and other vulnerable groups. This service utilises UN-Habitat's Waste Wise Cities Tool, which comprises 7 steps that guide cities to collect data on municipal solid waste (MSW) generated, collected, and managed in controlled facilities.

### **F.2. Water and sanitation planning and infrastructure investments**

**Development of rational, comprehensive and financeable medium-term water and sanitation infrastructure investment programmes to support local governments and water and sanitation service providers.** This approach supports the implementation of existing city development strategies and comprehensive development plans. Key elements of the service include diagnoses, identifying opportunities for investment, assisting cities to prioritize investments, preparing pre-feasibility studies, strengthening government and service providers' capacities, and supporting them in the preparation and implementation of investment projects.

### **F.3. Sustainable urban mobility planning**

**Development of Sustainable Urban Mobility Plans that are designed to satisfy the mobility needs of people and businesses in cities and their surroundings for a better quality of life.** These plans integrate all transportation modes, and include a long-term vision and clear implementation strategies. This service introduces new concepts and methodologies for data collection on walking and cycling; provides advice on institutional and policy aspects of non-motorized transport (NMT); includes technical assistance for street design that caters for pedestrians and cyclists, such as the design of footpaths, bike lanes and street crossings; as well as providing technical advice on street design standards and capacity building of officials.

### **F.4. Creating energy and resource efficient buildings**

**Technical assistance and methodologies for creating energy efficient buildings, including advice on institutional changes, policies, and standards for green buildings.** This includes supporting energy efficient building codes; supporting pilot demonstrations project for low-carbon buildings; providing technical advice on design standards; building capacities of officials; and advising on energy transition and renewable energy technologies.

## **F.5. Enhancing sustainability and effectiveness of water utilities through Water Operators' Partnership**

**Supporting water and sanitation operators in settlements of all sizes to help deliver services that are fundamental to inclusive, safe, resilient and sustainable cities.** This service utilises the convening power of the UN-Habitat-led Global Water Operators' Partnership Alliance (GWOPA) to mobilize governments (local and national), civil society groups, labour unions, financial institutions, and the private sector to promote water operators' partnerships (WOPs). WOPs strengthen the capacity of water and sanitation operators to ensure the availability and sustainable management of water and sanitation for all focusing on inclusive access to services, water quality, water use efficiency, integrated water management and conservation, capacity development and community engagement.

## **G. Economy and finance**

### **G.1. Rapid own source revenue analysis (ROSRA)**

**Supporting local governments to optimize their Own Source Revenues (OSR).** The ROSRA tool quantifies revenue leakages and deconstructs known bottlenecks to identify root causes and entry points for reform. By supporting local revenue administrations to better understand and communicate the weaknesses of their OSR systems, it facilitates strategic and resource effective interventions and helps to build reform momentum within local governments.

### **G.2. Land-based finance for good governance and inclusive development**

**A flexible set of instruments that can be adapted to a variety of institutional and cultural contexts, aiming to enhance the availability of resources for local development through leveraging land.** Improved local finances and the ability to improve local infrastructure and service provision can have far-reaching social and economic benefits. Compared with other often-used revenue streams, land-based finance tends to increase the progressivity of the tax system, thus promoting equity, and has fewer negative impacts than many other revenue tools, and can help to establish reciprocal relationships of accountability between resident communities and government.

## **H. Cities and climate change**

### **H.1. Integrating human settlements in National Adaptation Plans (NAPs), Nationally Determined Contributions (NDCs), and national climate change policies**

**Supporting national governments in comprehensively integrating urban and human settlement issues in their NAPs, NDCs and national climate policies.** The NAP Guide is a tried-and-tested resource that integrates these issues at the formulation, implementation, and measuring, reporting and verification stages. The NDC Guide is a new tool that outlines a step-by-step approach and set of recommendations to support national governments to integrate urban and human settlement related issues into their NDCs. The guide addresses both content (e.g., urban relevant sectors like transport, housing) and process (e.g., participation of local governments, other stakeholders). Learning from international experience and best practices, policy-makers can fully address the urban dimension of climate change policies, and successfully strengthen national climate policies from a human settlements perspective.

## **H.2. Supporting urban low-emission development strategies**

**Technical support for low-emission development strategies.** This is provided primarily through the Urban-LEDS II project, focusing on integrated low emission and resilient development in over 60 cities in 8 countries. ICLEI and UN-Habitat work directly with cities to accelerate the low-emission development process. Peer-to-peer exchanges allow cities to learn from each other's challenges and successes. In parallel, vertical integration of climate efforts among different levels of government provide sustainable benefits at the local and national level.

## **H.3. Guiding Principles for City Climate Action Planning**

**Supporting planned or ongoing city-level climate action planning processes, with the aim of strengthening those processes to reflect international best practices as represented in eight Guiding Principles.** City-level decision-makers receive an easy-to-follow review of their processes, with concrete suggestions for improving these.

## **H.4. Planning for climate change: A strategic, value-based approach for urban planners**

**A tool for city planners to better understand, assess and take action on climate change at the local level.** It is specifically targeted to the needs of planners and allied professionals in cities in low and middle-income countries where the challenges of planning for climate change are particularly high. It provides an approach that allows local decision-makers to develop climate action plans that reflect local values.

## **H.5. Climate change vulnerability and risk: A guide for community assessments, action planning and implementation**

**Supporting community-based vulnerability assessments and action plans.** This tool provides crucial information for resilience planning and the identification of transformative projects, supporting risk-reduction and climate adaptation. Participatory approaches are followed, engaging communities and capturing local knowledge. Particularly in the context of informal settlements, community-based vulnerability assessments provide invaluable data appropriately disaggregated, that can support the development of strategies for resilient informal settlements upgrading.

## **H.6. Local leadership for climate change action**

**Practical measures that cities can take to respond to climate change.** Climate change presents local leaders with an opportunity to put their communities onto paths towards more sustainable, livable, vibrant and environmentally friendly cities. Key messages are illustrated with inspiring examples of local-level leadership drawn from cities around the world.

## **H.7. Developing local climate change plans**

**Guidance for a simple planning process based on understanding long-term climate change impacts, urban development challenges, and the needs of citizens.** Developed jointly with IIED, this guide, focused on developing countries, enables any city to get started no matter how limited its resources. Among other elements, it describes "quick win" activities that address both climate and urban issues simultaneously.

## I.Capacity building

### I.1. Sustainable transfer of skills and knowledge to governments and urban stakeholders

**Capacity building and training projects delivered by UN-Habitat to strengthen the ability of institutions and individuals to effectively intervene, transform and improve themselves and the environment in which they operate.** UN-Habitat leverages partnerships with training institutions, delivers quality needs assessments, tools and trainings that brings together local and national governments, civil society and academia, to create new ways of working and positively impact their capacities to manage urban challenges in the long term.

### I.2. Advancing government capacities through Regional Training Centres of Excellence

**Establishment of regional training centres of excellence to fill the critical capacity needs of municipal and city leaders to effectively respond to pressing demands of urbanization.** Capitalizing on more than 10 years' experience in building regional capacities across Asia and the Pacific, UN-Habitat extends its expertise to partners in jointly establishing training institutes and co-producing bespoke and cutting-edge training courses and materials, whilst providing unparalleled opportunities for city-to-city exchange and cross-fertilization of ideas through its wide alumni network.

### I.3. Cities and climate change academy (online)

Educational modules for the curricula of universities, higher education and training institutions on climate change in urban areas. These modules provide an overview of theory and concepts of climate change including mitigation, adaptation, risk and vulnerability, and demonstrate how climate change is a key issue in urban areas. Each of the seven modules includes powerpoint slides, lecture notes, syllabus and reading lists.



## Section 03

### Our flagship programmes

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UN-Habitat has developed five flagship initiatives that build on and incorporate the agency's tried and tested services exemplified in Section III. Each flagship brings together and integrates a variety of these services, tools, and expertise to address different challenges holistically, grounded in equality and mainstreaming gender-sensitive approaches. The flagships are designed to achieve impact at scale and to accelerate key urban contributions to the achievement of the SDGs.

The flagships will also integrate new instruments and approaches (including the Innovation Challenge Fund; sub-regional technical resource hubs; New Urban Agenda platform; SDG City Certification; and City Investment Facility) and work to strengthen a marketplace for impact investment towards COVID-19 and economic recovery and the acceleration of SDGs.

**Flagship 1: Inclusive, Vibrant Neighbourhoods and Communities** contributes urban regeneration to reduce spatial inequality and poverty by transforming deprived areas in cities into connected, dynamic, diverse and vibrant neighborhoods that incubate development for the entire city and the respective hinterland. UN-Habitat's regeneration approach will include a strong focus on human rights and increased accessibility for people with disabilities, elderly, youth, children and women while opening pathways for broader socio-economic transformation.

**Flagship 2: People-focused Smart Cities** enhances shared prosperity of cities and regions by making urban digital transformation work for the benefits of all, driving sustainability, inclusivity and prosperity and the realization of human rights. Together with the other flagship programmes and in collaboration with other UN Agencies, as well as state and non-state actors, this flagship is expected to achieve: (i) digital policy transformation; (ii) financing digital urban innovation; and (iii) digital empowerment and capacity building

**Flagship 3: RISE UP: Resilient Settlements for the Urban Poor** improves socio-economic prosperity of the urban poor by reducing climate disruptions and enhancing service provisions and community resilience. RISE UP provides comprehensive technical assistance to integrate pro-poor climate action in national and local policy and planning frameworks and engages at the local level to facilitate community driven profiling and planning processes. Working at multiple levels provides enabling factors for RISE UP partners to help prepare and mobilize investment into global hotspots of urban climate vulnerability.

**Flagship 4: Enhancing the Positive Impact of Urban Migration** supports creating inclusive, non-discriminatory urban environments amongst host and migrant communities, including in acute crisis environments. It will increase the capacity of governments to harness the positive impact of migration to cities and communities and advancing inclusive and sustainable urban development, while improving living conditions and fostering social cohesion.

**Flagship 5: SDG Cities** focuses on the potential of cities to drive the achievement of the SDGs and thus improve quality of life for all, leaving no one and no place behind. SDG Cities will work with cities, other levels of government, communities, the private sector and development partners to leverage public and private sector financing for sustainable urbanization. Better urban data starting from the SDGs creates the basis for evidence-based strategies and planning and impact investments, whose performance can be measured against progress towards the SDGs.

A better quality of life for all  
in an urbanizing world

**UN HABITAT**  
FOR A BETTER URBAN FUTURE

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