

Western Europe and Others Regional Group (WEOG)

Consultative meeting with
UN-Habitat Executive Director

24 September 2020

UN  **HABITAT**
FOR A BETTER URBAN FUTURE

Agenda

1. **Opening** by H.E. Mr.Ahmet Cemil Miroglu, Permanent Representative of the Republic of Turkey to UN-Habitat and Chair of the regional group of Western Europe and other States in Nairobi;
2. Welcoming remarks by UN-Habitat;
3. Presentation of **UN-Habitat's activities in the region** including UN-Habitat's response to COVID-19 followed by a Q&A discussion;
4. Presentation of **UN-Habitat's financial status and fundraising strategy** followed by a Q&A discussion;
5. Any other matters, including closing remarks.

Introductory remark on WEOG membership

Architecture of UN Regional Groups for Western and Eastern Europe is complex

- Formally, half of the EU Member States belong to the UN Eastern Europe Regional Group (EEG), whilst the other half belong to the Western and Others Group (WEOG).
- WEOG includes Australia, Canada, Israel, New Zealand and Turkey, as well as the United States of America as an observer.
- Within the context of today's meeting, we'll consider all EU Member States within the same group (**WEOG+EU**).



UN-Habitat presence in Europe (WEOG+EU)

Liaison Offices

- **New York:** Liaison with UNHQ & USA
- **Geneva:** Liaison with Geneva-based institutions, Humanitarian Affairs & Eastern Europe
- **Brussels:** Liaison with EU Institutions & support to EU-based operations

Others

- Spain Country Office in Madrid
- City Resilience Global Programme Office in Barcelona
- Global Water Operators' Partnerships Alliance Secretariat in Bonn

Alignment to WEOG+EU priorities

Special emphasis has been made by UN-Habitat to provide answers to:

The digital agenda. It is a fact that rapid urbanization is now followed or accompanied by rapid digitalization. The world of today is urban as well as digital, presenting both challenges and opportunities for policy makers.

The environmental agenda. Strengthened climate action and improved urban environment is one of the four domains of change identified in UN-Habitat strategic plan.

The demographic agenda. “Improved living standards and inclusion of migrants, refugees, internally displaced persons and returnees through effective crisis response and recovery” - targeted interventions on urban legislation, urban planning & design, urban governance and urban finance.

The growth and **regeneration of human settlements**, notably through interventions on current and future **cultural heritage**.

Operations with & within Europe (1/3)

Area 1 :

New Urban Agenda & the Agenda2030 for Europe

The focus is on monitoring, advocacy and research.

Example: Organization of expert group meetings, Collaboration with European Joint Research Centre, Research on the governance of urban design, Technical support to Spanish Urban Agenda, etc.



Operations with & within Europe (2/3)

Area 2 : Policy Dialogue

Be a meaningful interlocutor of WEOG and EU Member States on:

- domestic implementation of Agenda2030 and NUA;
- urban dimension of Member States' external action

Example: Contribution to Urban Agenda for the EU, revision of Leipzig Charter, EU “International Urban Cooperation” Programme, EU policies for development cooperation, Paris Agreement and humanitarian assistance, Spain Urban Forum etc.

Operations with & within Europe (3/3)

Area 3 :

Support to development cooperation and humanitarian assistance

WEOG+EU Member States are long-standing supporter of UN-Habitat activities in developing countries, emerging economies and crisis contexts. Together, they provide more than 60% of UN-Habitat total acquisition.

WEOG+EU support to third countries

Top beneficiaries (2018-2020)

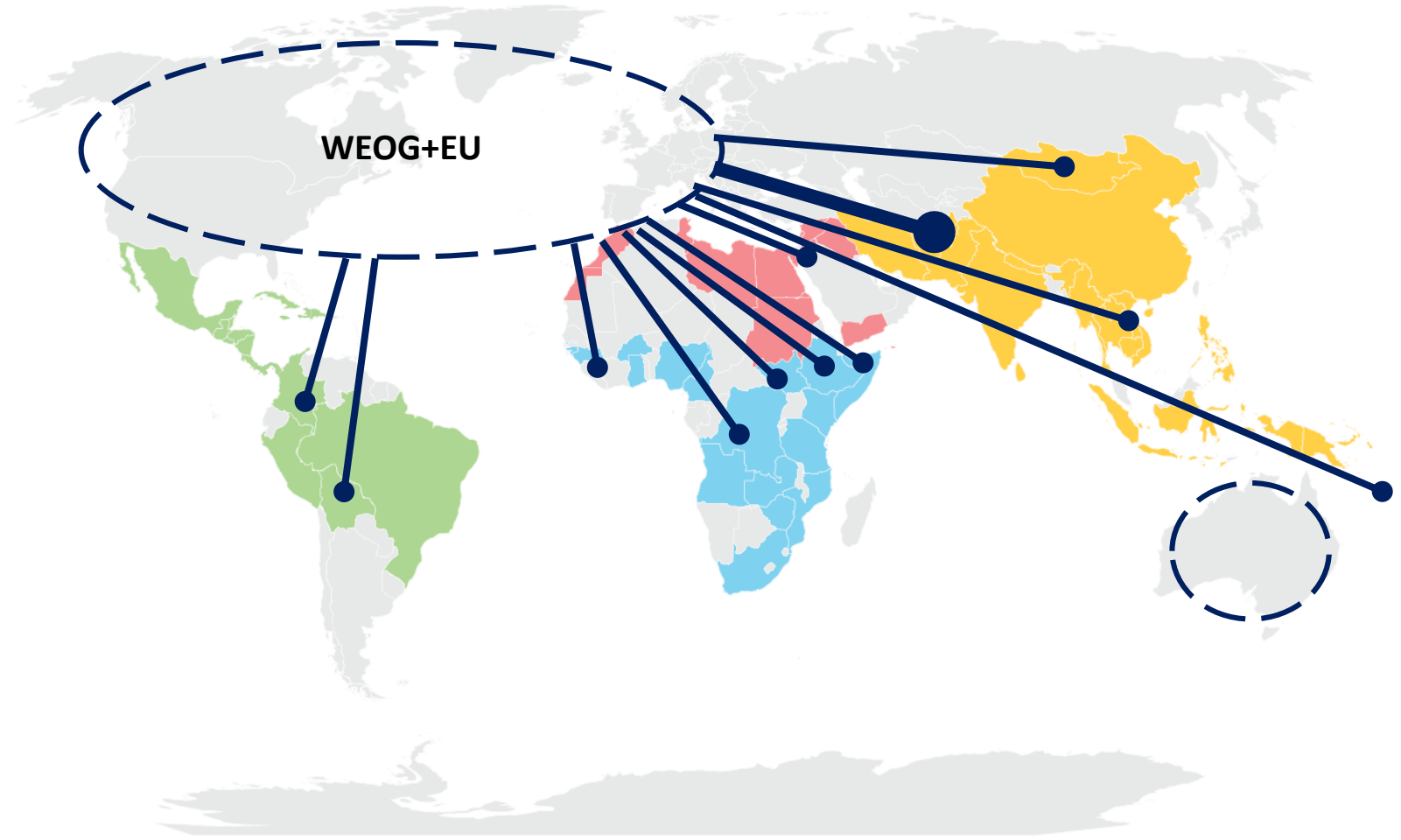
Afghanistan
US\$ 52.9 M

Syria
US\$ 12.4 M

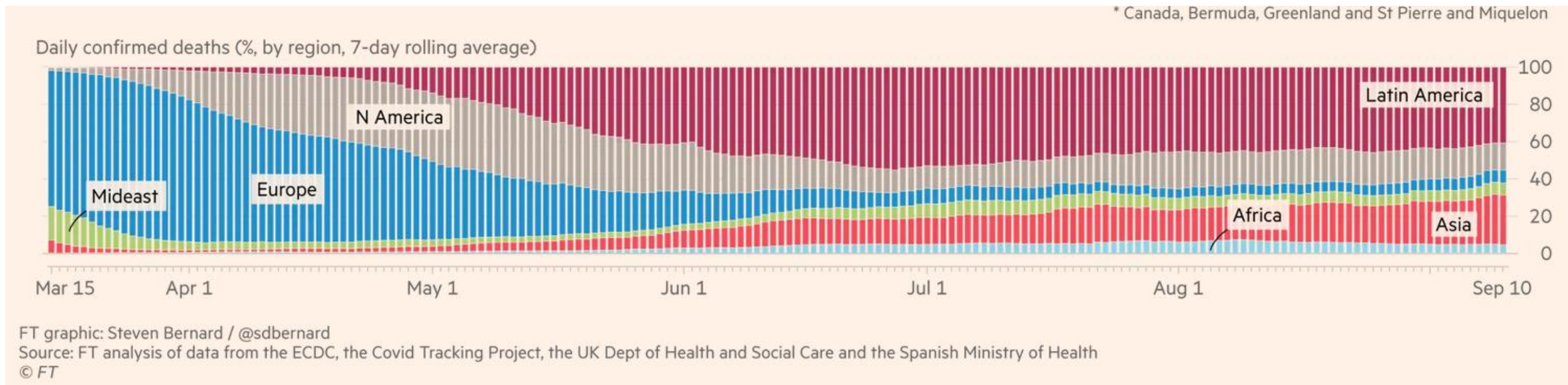
Palestine
US\$ 10.2 M

Laos PDR
US\$ 8.1 M

Somalia
US\$ 8.1 M



Covid19: Europe and the rest of the world



It seemed that focus of the pandemic has shifted from Europe to other parts of the world, but it is coming back. Weekly cases have now exceeded those reported when the pandemic first peaked in Europe in March. Last week, the region's weekly tally exceeded 300,000 cases. More than half of European countries have reported a greater than 10 per cent increase in cases in the past two weeks. Of those, seven countries have seen newly-reported cases increase more than two-fold in the same period

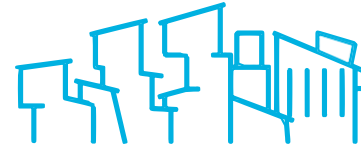
Urban dimension of COVID19



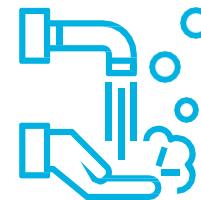
Over **1,430 cities** in 210 countries affected by Covid-19



Over **95%** of total cases in urban areas



1 billion people live in informal settlements and slums in overcrowded and inadequate housing

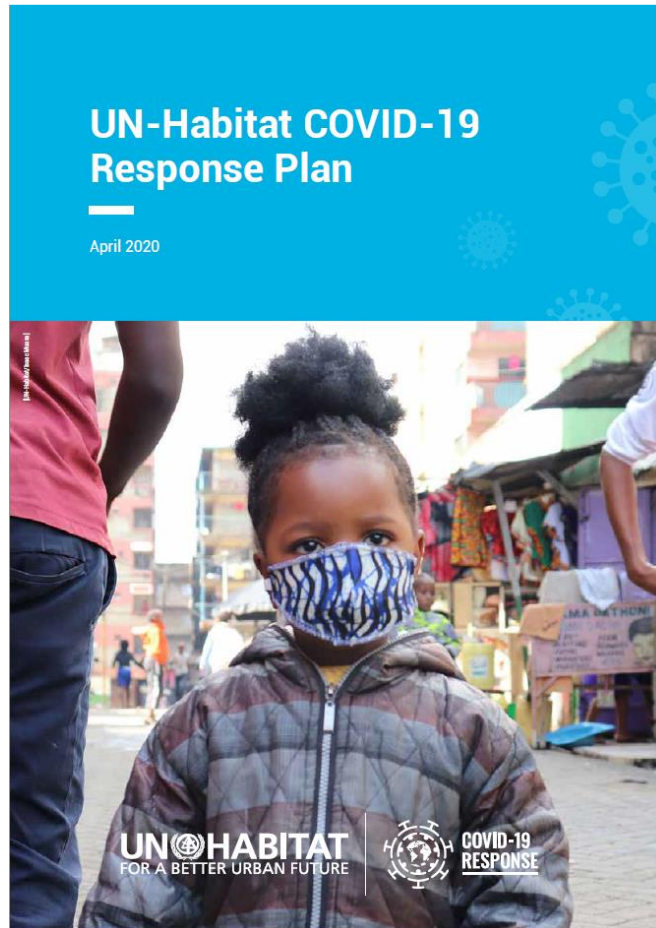


2.4 billion people lack adequate access to safe water and sanitation



USD 72 million needed by UN-Habitat to help meet urgent needs in cities and communities in 64 countries

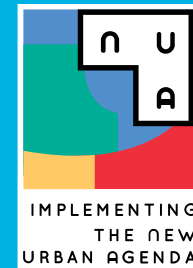
Covid19: Europe and the rest of the world



- 1 Support local governments and community driven solution
- 2 Provide urban data evidence-based, mapping and knowledge for informed decision
- 3 Mitigate economic impact and initiate recovery

Thank you

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