

REGIONAL OFFICE FOR AFRICA
ANNUAL REPORT 2020





REGIONAL OFFICE FOR AFRICA – ANNUAL REPORT 2020

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Cover Photo: Nakuru Deputy Governor demonstrating to community how to wash hands ©UN-Habitat

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List of Acronyms

AfDB	African Development Bank
CCA	Common Country Assessment
CityRap	City Resilience Action Planning
DRC	Democratic Republic of Congo
EDF	European Development Bank
EIB	European Investment Bank
HUWSUP	Horgesia Urban Water Supply Upgrading Project
IDPs	Internally Displaced Peoples
ISUD	Intergrated Sustainable Urban Development Plan
JPLG	Joint Programme on Local Governance
KCMAGIS	Kisumu Covid-19 Multi Agency Group on Informal Settlements
LGA	Local Government Area
NIP	National Indicative Programme
NHP	National Housing Policy
NTSA	National Transport and Safety Authority
NUPs	National Urban Policies
PALPOC	Post Cyclone Reconstruction Programme
PSUP	Participatory Slum Upgrading Programme
PPHPZ	Peoples's Process on Housing and Poverty in Zambia
PMT	Project Management Teams
PWDS	People Living With Disabilities
RCs	Resident Coordinator
RRS	Regional Representation Strategy
SADC	South African Development Community
SIC	Cameroon Real Estate Corporation
SIDA	Swedish International Development Agency
SDF	Spatial Development Framework
SSBs	Soil Stabilized Bricks

Foreword

Africa is undergoing rapid urbanization that will result in almost 1.33 billion people living in cities by 2050, compared to 470 million at present. Around 2030, Africa's collective population will become 50 percent urban. This calls for innovation and new business model in addressing issues of urbanization and issues of pandemics such as COVID 19 which countries were navigating in the year under review.

2020 marked the year when the Regional Office for African developed it Regional Representation Strategy (RRS) for 2020-2023 in line with UN-Habitat's overall strategic Plan which reinforces UN-Habitat's role as the global centre of excellence on sustainable urban development. UN-Habitat continued to offer solutions that help seize the opportunities presented by urbanization at the same time providing transformational change for the benefit of millions of people to ensure that no one and no place is left behind.

In addition to implementing the priorities in the RRS, the Regional Office took into consideration the UN-Habitat COVID-19 Response and Recovery Strategy for Sub-Saharan Africa, which focused on slums and informal settlements. It also built on partnerships with diverse United Nations Agencies, contributing to the United Nations Reform as well as with other bilateral and multilateral partners at the country level. This provided the Regional Office for Africa added value to on-going initiatives.

In 2020 UN-Habitat paid attention to durable solutions through restructuring of the urban planning portfolio to include a holistic approach to the urban crisis such as flooding, and drought caused by climate change. Most recently, pandemics such as COVID 19 revealed the high vulnerability of Africa to the effects of shocks and their limited capacity to mitigate and recover from

the associated impacts. Through various tools, advisory services, capacity development and technical support, UN-Habitat continued to work with governments to address challenges including poverty and inequality; informal settlements; urban food and water insecurity; climate change and disaster risk reduction. Priority areas of support at national and local levels provided in 2020 included housing and slum upgrading, urban basic services, land management, urban economy, urban and regional planning, policy development, disaster risk reduction and recovery, post-conflict reconstruction and durable solutions for displaced and affected communities.

This report highlights UN-Habitats work with member states and other Habitat Agenda partners in responding national priorities through national development plan and contributing to the sustainable development goals (particularly SDG 11), the implementation of the New Urban Agenda (NUA) and Africa vision 2063. UN-Habitat established new partnerships and embarked on new collaborations with relevant global, regional, sub-regional and national partners.

We acknowledge the support from development partners, UN sister agencies and our implementing partners. Additionally, we are grateful for the continuous support received from member states in the delivery of these interventions even amid the COVID 19 pandemic. Looking forward to continued support in the years to come.



Oumar Sylla

Regional Director
Regional Office for Africa



As the world is rapidly urbanizing and all settlements; Africa is urbanizing fastest.

Introduction

Rapid urbanisation in Africa can represent opportunities for economic transformation and reduction of inequalities. At the same time, there are increased challenges facing cities and human settlements, including planning, climate change, insecurity, migration by internal displacement, as well as demographic pressure especially in secondary cities and settlements affected by crisis.

In 2020, the emergency responses to the COVID-19 pandemic revealed the need for a new business model for planning African cities, especially in the context of rural-urban migration. Increased urban population is a strong demographic asset for the continent's prospective transformation and full potential may be reached once cities are properly planned and adequately serviced. However, advancing the urban agenda in Africa will depend on each country's context and circumstances.

2020 saw the Regional Office for Africa implement activities in line with the UN-Habitat Strategic Plan 2020-2023 and the Regional Representation Strategy (RRS). Both strategies reinforce UN-Habitat's role as a global centre of excellence on sustainable urban development and offer solutions presented by urbanization. Further, these strategies aim to bring about transformational change for the benefit of millions of people and ensure that no one and no place is left behind.

UN-Habitat continued to work with governments to address urbanization challenges which include poverty and inequality; informal settlements; food and water insecurity; climate change; and disaster risk reduction. In 2020, the priority areas of support at national and local levels included housing and slum upgrading, basic urban services, land management, urban economy,

urban and regional planning, policy development, disaster risk reduction and recovery, post-conflict reconstruction and durable solutions for displaced and affected communities.

However, several activities had to be redirected towards supporting emergency actions related to the COVID-19 pandemic in line with the UN-Habitat COVID-19 Response and Recovery Strategy for Sub-Saharan Africa. The Recovery Strategy focused on slums and informal settlements and built on partnerships with diverse United Nations agencies as well as bilateral and multilateral partners at the country and regional levels. Strategic partners included government, civil society organizations, academia, the private sector, research institutions, community-based organizations, and youth and women's groups.

Working with UN agencies at the country level also facilitated UN-Habitat's contribution towards UN reforms; for example, regular meetings at regional levels as well as in the Common Country Assessment (CCA) and country specific United Nations Strategic Frameworks provided more insights and guidance for the development and implementation of the UN Sustainable Development Cooperation Framework (UNSDCF) at the country level.

This aspect of the UN reform has enabled UN-Habitat to provide an urban perspective in programming at the country level as well as an opportunity to get closer to Resident Coordinator's (RCs) to further elucidate UN-Habitat's mandate and comparative advantage on urban issues. Working through this mechanism, has improved the programme's cooperation with other UN agencies and engagement with government ministries, and increased UN-Habitat's unique

role in championing urban related issues. UN-Habitat has been involved in the development of the CCA and UNSDCF in countries including Angola, Botswana, Burkina Faso, Cape Verde, Cameroon, Comoros, Congo-Brazzaville, Cote d'Ivoire, Democratic Republic of Congo, Djibouti, Eritrea, Ethiopia, Gabon, Gambia, Ghana, Guinea Bissau, Kenya, Lesotho, Madagascar, Mauritius, Mozambique, Namibia, Nigeria, Rwanda, Sao Tome and Principe, Senegal, Seychelles, Somalia, South Africa, Tanzania, Zambia, and Zimbabwe.

During the year under review the active portfolio of projects in Africa spread across twenty-four (24) countries. The Atlas developed during the year highlights in detail the activities and programmes undertaken in various countries and is available on the UN-Habitat website.

Despite the COVID-19 pandemic, implementation continued to focus on four sub programmes as outlined in the UN-Habitat Strategic Plan 2020-2023 namely a) Reduced spatial inequality and poverty in communities across the urban–rural continuum; b) Enhanced shared prosperity of cities and regions; c) Strengthened climate action and improved urban environments; and d) Effective urban crisis prevention and response. Since UN-Habitat also aims to redress chronic issues of discrimination and marginalization at a structural level, the following elements of the social inclusion dimension of the Strategic Plan were applied across the sub programmes. These include issues of human rights and gender with specific considerations for children, youth, older people and persons living with disabilities.

KEY HIGHLIGHTS

- a) partnerships with diverse United Nations Agencies, as well as bilateral and multilateral partners at the country and regional levels, were forged to continue implementing the strategic plan and repurposed activities to address challenges brought about by the pandemic;
- b) support for the development of socio-economic recovery plans and adaptation of National Urban Policies given the new context;
- c) establishment of participatory data collection systems in informal settlements to identify gaps and facilitate coordination of interventions among various actors (community, local, national);
- d) gender, age, and disability were highly considered in the design and implementation of transformative interventions.

LESSONS LEARNT

- a) pandemics such as COVID-19 highlight the need for a new business model for planning African cities;
- b) African cities are highly vulnerable to the effects of shocks, and have limited capacity to mitigate and recover from the associated impacts;
- c) country presence is more needed than ever given limited movement and heavy reliance of working with UN Country teams;
- d) it is key to align UN-Habitat Country Programmes to address key issues in the strategic Plan and also feed into the UNSDCF;
- e) it is important to prioritize countries for intervention due to limited capacity at both the country level and Headquarters;
- f) re-programming within existing frameworks, projects and programs is possible and leads to success through close interaction with engaged partners, government counterparts and donors, as shown by the example of repurposed European Funds in Somalia for cash transfers and Water and Sanitation (WASH) activities.

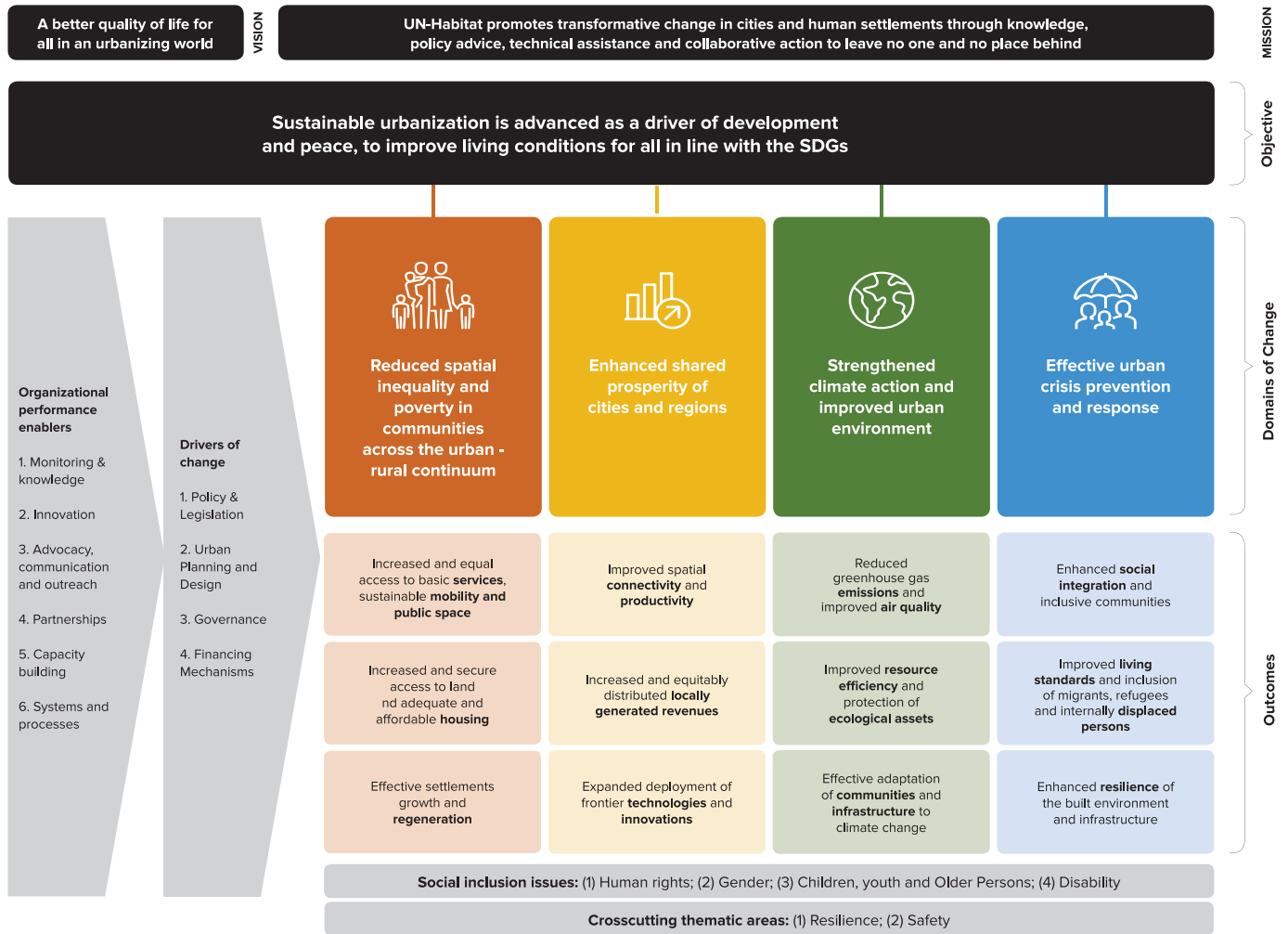


Figure 1: UN-Habitat theory of change for the Strategic Plan for the period 2020–2023 UN-Habitat

ACHIEVEMENTS IN 2020

- Improving Basic Services
- Support for the Development and Implementation of Urban Policies and Frameworks
- Enhancing Urban and Territorial Planning
- Improved Revenue Collection
- Building Climate Adaptation and City Resilience
- Supporting Climate Change Policies
- Improving Waste Management Systems
- New Framework with the Adaption Fund for Southern Africa
- Strengthening Collaboration on Resilient Cities
- Establishment of Durable Solutions to Crisis in Cities
- Response to Covid-19 Pandemic

Improving Basic Services

The role of UN-Habitat in this subprogramme is to consolidate its vast experience in the area of basic services, housing and slum upgrading, land, urban mobility and public space. All cities and human settlements, regardless of size, require adequate basic and social services accessible to all including access to water, sanitation, waste management, energy, technology, health care and education. Also, in order to be productive and inclusive, cities require safe and sustainable mobility, as well as availability, distribution, quality of and access to public space, which is important to reduce inequality.

ACCESS TO PUBLIC SPACE

Public spaces are an important social, physical, environmental and economic asset in cities. They provide people with many opportunities to come together and engage with the community, encourage social diversity, integration, cohesion and gender equality. In Kenya, the Nairobi City

County Government and UN-Habitat undertook the Public Space Inventory and Assessment, which revealed the status of the city's public spaces. The report shows that only 19.8% of the 826 public open spaces in Nairobi have inclusive infrastructure. It also highlights the gaps in the distribution, accessibility and quality of public open spaces in Nairobi. This provides a starting point to develop an evidence-based strategy and policy for the protection, revitalization, creation, enjoyment, and restoration of the city's image as the "Green City in the Sun". In Ethiopia, UN-Habitat is supporting the rehabilitation of Sheger Riverside Public Space. Including the participatory design and implementation of a public green space safely accessible for all.

IMPROVED ACCESS TO LAND AND HOUSING

UN-Habitat has increasingly collaborated with countries to develop policies and strategies that would support an increase to secure access to land, and adequate and affordable housing for residents in the targeted countries. Evidence supports that proper land management linked to good urban planning constitutes the foundation for housing development, basic services provision and infrastructure investments. These are critical aspects for all African cities and towns and are also linked to informal settlement upgrading.

For instance, in the Democratic Republic of Congo (DRC), through the Improvement of Land tenure security for peaceful community and economic growth in Eastern DRC, significant progress was made towards increasing the capacity of local and national governments representatives and other Habitat Agenda Partners to implement programmes that improve security of tenure for all.

BOX 1

SHEGER RIVERSIDE PUBLIC SPACE REHABILITATION PILOT PROJECT, ADDIS ABABA, ETHIOPIA

"Beautifying Sheger," an initiative of the Prime Minister of Ethiopia, focuses on the rivers of Addis Ababa, starting from the Entoto mountains in the North to the Akaki treatment plant in the South. The objective of the project is to improve the image of the city and increase the potential of Addis Ababa, while creating diverse job opportunities and facilitating investments in the local riverside economy. It will improve environmental conditions and increase tourism, with strong links to various neighbourhoods and destinations in the city. UN-Habitat's contribution to the Beautifying Sheger Initiative started in 2019. Using a sustainable approach to rehabilitate riversides as high-quality public space as part of the bigger river and riverfront rehabilitation project, aligned with UN-Habitat's standards of public space development and served as a showcase for other implementing partners.

This included vulnerable groups, women, young people and indigenous people. Overall, UN-Habitat's innovative approach of Community Land Mediation as a means of stabilization enabled the securing of 5,000 land rights, including 653 in North Kivu, 1,883 in South Kivu and 2,464 in Ituri. Over 115,000 people benefited from conflict resolution mechanisms, while over 114,000 people (of which 45,978 were women) saw their knowledge of land conflict resolution improved through outreach activities.¹ In Cameroon, negotiations are underway with two municipalities of Fotokol and Mokolo to lead and execute their land use plans for an estimated population of 40,168. Further, a strategic partnership was forged to support increased access to adequate housing

through a Contribution Agreement signed with the Cameroon Real Estate Corporation (SIC) which will support institutional development and renovation of social housing units.

The project is expected to equip SIC managers and staff, government staff, staff of local governments, residents, and professional societies with appropriate institutional and organizational tools to better manage the renovation and preservation of their properties, attract more investors and new purchasers, and contribute to the reduction of the decent housing deficit in Cameroon. This is a significant demonstration of private sector involvement in infrastructure development.



Fig 2: UN-HABITAT DED in front of housing units to be renovated in Yaoundé

¹ See, CLUP Project Closure Report

UN-Habitat undertook initiatives in Somalia to develop programmes that target the Federal Government and Federal Member States to engage with land disputes and conflict in a comprehensive, human rights centred and peace building geared manner. Key achievements include the Urban Land

Management Law, governing land management in Puntland which was enacted by the parliament, and a Local Government Finance Policy which was adopted in all Federal Member States and District Profiles of Kismayo and Baidoa.



Fig 3: Puntland Members of Parliament during the Land law enactment.

Land and property are an important domestic revenue source for local government, which can be used to invest in expansion and improvement of basic services and infrastructure. Local governments are vested with mandates ranging from provision of basic amenities to key infrastructure at the local level. However, in most cases, local governments lack sufficient capacity to deliver all these mandated services. In order to bridge this gap, capacity building is required to unleash the potential of domestic revenue sources. For example, in Somalia, UN-Habitat developed a guide to local taxation. The guide is a key milestone to significantly enhancing local taxation while ensuring implementation of appropriate, simple, and transparent tax legislation and reforms to provide the best environment for compliance. In collaboration with the Ministry

of Interior, Federal Affairs and Reconciliation, as well as state ministries of interior, the program organized a virtual 3-day Training of Trainers guide to local taxation with potential for training more people. Property registration provides another option to increase domestic revenue sources. For example, Southwest State in Somalia registered 21,482 properties and showcased how this can be linked to financial management systems for bill generation and revenue collection. The intervention also included the installation of road signboards for ease of reference and location and to help tax collectors easily identify property addresses (Fig. 4 & 5). This included main trunk roads and important feeder roads, and helped both local people and visitors better understand roads within the town. A summary of the typologies of the properties registered is provided below.



Fig 4: Property Address in South West State



Fig 5: Road signboards in Southwest State

In South Sudan, UN-Habitat was able to support enhancement of women's access and right to land to consolidate peace. Through capacity building of traditional authorities, leaders, and communities, approximately 4,500 beneficiaries (2,920 women, 1,580 men) were reached through an awareness creation campaign.

As a result of the intervention, in Wau, a city in north western South Sudan, 30 chiefs were mobilized and a consensus was reached on improved and standardized residential certification. About 650 women benefited from financial support from the Ministry of Physical infrastructure and Urban Development to process their land tenure documents. The problem had been a result of the women's lack of financial resources to process land documents.

In Uganda, through the Global Land Tool Network. UN-Habitat is supporting the Ministry of Lands Housing and Urban Development in implementing the National Land Policy and strengthening the capacity of partners and other land actors in the region to promote land tools and approaches that are pro-poor, gender responsive, effective and sustainable. Achievements include promoting fit for purpose land management in 6 districts and issuing 10,000 land certificates for 18,000 households. In Zambia, support was geared towards facilitating the Land Reforms process and documentation of land rights in customary land and informal settlements. Achievements

include: a) the development of the National Land Policy which is undergoing government processes and expected to receive cabinet approval; and b) in Chamuka Chiefdom (about 180km from Lusaka), in partnership with the People's Process on Housing and Poverty in Zambia and Zambia Homeless and Poor People's Federation, sixteen (16) villages were enumerated and mapped with 1130 certificates of customary land occupancy generated and expected to benefit 7228 people in the area. The following is the disaggregation of the certificates.

S/N	Category	Number	Percentage
1.	Joint ownership	503	44%
2.	Female ownership	289	25%
3.	Male ownership	352	31%

Table: Land Ownership Categories

UN-Habitat has been promoting consultative approaches that include migrants, refugees, internally displaced persons (IDPs) and returnees in its programming, particularly in effective urban crisis prevention and response. UN-Habitat took a unique approach to address sustainable solutions to issues of land and housing focusing on refugees and host communities. UN-Habitat supported the local integration of about 23,000 former refugees from Angola, Rwanda and Zambia in two resettlement schemes in Mayukwayukwa and Meheba in the Western and North Western provinces respectively. There were two components to this work: the first was a

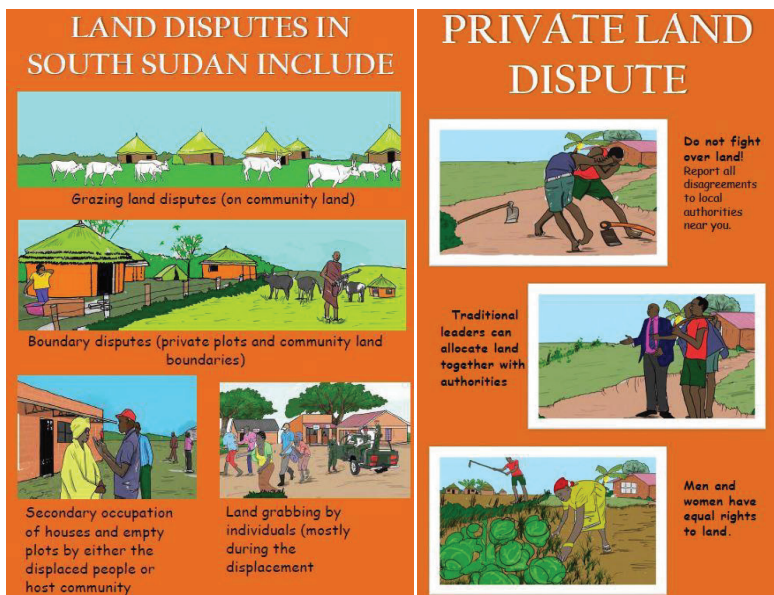


Figure 6: Awareness creation campaign materials



Figure 7: A woman receiving financial support to process land tenure documents

partnership with two municipal councils in Kaoma and Kalumbila to successfully implement all planned activities and support the establishment of Ward Development Committees (WDCs). This not only bolstered community participation in local governance, but also ensured the sustainability of interventions at the lowest levels of government, connecting local to national levels. The second component trained co-operatives and savings

groups in livelihood activities and adequate and affordable house construction using local materials. Skills and capacity developed in eco-friendly housing construction targeted mainly women and youth who received the training. This pool of local labour forms the foundation of the community-based housing development mechanism.



Figure 8 and 9: Group discussions during WDCs of Mumena and Matebo wards in Meheba

Community mobilization and the formation of Housing Cooperatives as well as hands on training of co-operative members in the making of soil stabilized bricks (SSBs) was undertaken. Using local soils promoted improved and eco-friendly housing. Training in village banking and entrepreneurship was undertaken and linked to

housing provision. Twenty (20) eco-friendly low-cost housing units were built, with 75 women in construction skills. 50 WDC members were trained in various skills including; clarification of the role of WDCs, election of officials and monitoring of public projects.



Figure 10 and 11: Before: using traditional soil bricks and thatch roofs. After: ecofriendly low income buildings using SSBs



“We are very thankful for the provision of this house because it has alleviated us from our woes. I am also thankful to my group members for helping me attain this house especially that I am not married and have gone through a lot,”

Margaret Mahipu

In Somalia, UN-Habitat in partnership with International Organization for Migration and UNDP has been implementing a project aimed at facilitating durable solutions through the application of community-based action planning processes and linking them to state and district priority plans for recovery, stabilization and emerging local governance systems. Experiences from Midnimo-I and II indicate that nearly one million Somalis benefitted from these interventions, especially the community-based infrastructure investments which included clinics, schools, police stations, market rehabilitation and access roads to peripheral IDP settlements. This saw increased community cohesion, improved access to basic services and strengthened capacity of local governments to lead local planning.

Experiences from Midnimo (Unity) project are summarized under the title of Human Security in an online publication: https://unhabitat.org/sites/default/files/2020/10/202010_midnimo_handbook.pdf.

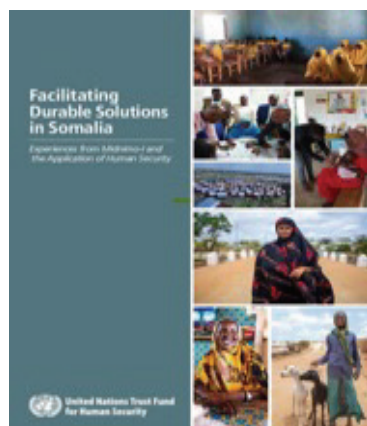


Figure 12: Durable Solutions in Somalia

The durable solutions approach has had regional impact and scalability. In Burkina Faso, the EU-funded project “Strengthening the resilience of local authorities in face of massive population displacements and the COVID-19 pandemic” is being implemented in the 4 secondary cities Dori, Kaya, Kougoussi and Tougouri. This project aims to enhance local authorities’ capacities and promote

participatory processes for increasing access to urban services for IDPs and host communities in vulnerable situations. This participatory and area-based approach will benefit both host and IDP communities in Burkina Faso, thus fostering social cohesion. The € 4 Million project has the potential to be scaled up across the Central Sahel region.

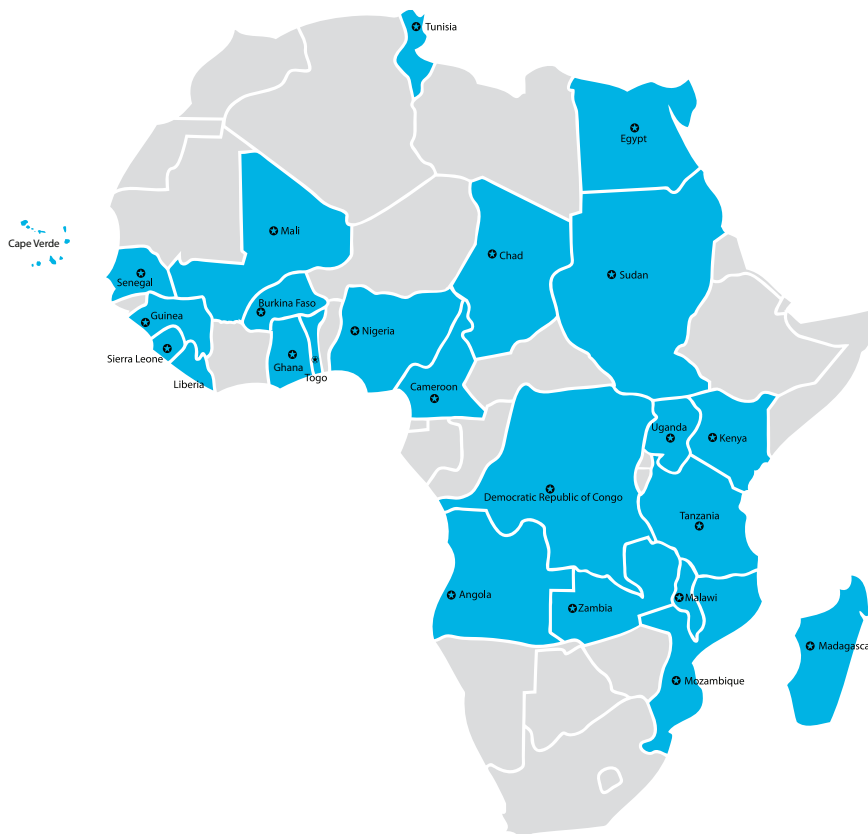


Figure 13: IDP settlements in project locations Kongoussi, Kaya, Dori and Tougouri

Support for the Development and Implementation of Urban Policies and Frameworks

UN-Habitat has continued to provide institutional support to countries in urban planning, formulating policies and regulations, and providing technical support to the national and local governments on public infrastructure and urban management.

PROGRESS IN NATIONAL URBAN POLICIES



23 Countries supported by UN-Habitat with NUP Development in Africa

The agency has worked on urban policy at different levels, supporting global, regional, national and sub-national programmes. In 2020, twenty countries were supported in the development of National Urban Policies (NUPs). These policies have served as core instruments to harness the potential of urbanization and drive sustainable development and the improvement of living standards.

This guidance is broad and includes mainstreaming food systems, addressing climate change and integrating migration into NUPs. In addition, NUPs support the review and assessment of urban legislation. These policies allow for integrated territorial development and connectivity between rural and urban development, with well planned and properly managed urbanization leading to wealth generation and maximizing the benefits of economies of scale and agglomeration. UN-Habitat's support of countries in Africa on territorial planning and capacity building has been important.

In Cape Verde, UN-Habitat has been assisting the Government in the elaboration of National Urban Policies. As a result, the following were published in February 2020: (i) the National Urban Policy and (ii) the National Housing Policy <https://www.governo.cv>

The National Housing Policy (NHP) of Cape Verde provides the vision for the inclusive development of adequate and affordable housing, encompassing the different needs of different income, social and cultural groups, and in particular the most vulnerable. The NHP promotes specific interventions along the housing supply chain including land, infrastructure, the construction industry and materials, housing finance, and institutional and regulatory contexts.

BOX 2

Operationalization of NUP in Cape Verde

UN-Habitat is currently assisting the Government of Cape Verde in drafting plans for the operationalization of these policies so that the country can realize the values and the principles in the New Urban Agenda.



Figure 14 – Cape Verde - National Urban Policy and National Housing Profile and Policy

In parallel national development policies five (5) out of the twenty-two (22) municipalities are being assisted in the elaboration of Municipal Housing Plans. In Cape Verde, local governments play an important role in land management and the promotion of access to land for housing. The UN-Habitat team has developed a dialogue with the Mayors of these municipalities on the importance of having a municipal housing plan, which can bring together local strategies and be transformed into an important tool for resource mobilization. In 2020 four (4) draft plans have already been elaborated and local consultation workshops are being carried out.

Enhancing Urban and Territorial Planning

Urban and territorial planning can contribute to sustainable development in various ways. It should however be closely associated with the three complementary areas of social development and inclusion, sustained economic growth, and environmental protection and management.

In Guinea-Bissau in February 2020, UN-Habitat launched a project on strengthening national and regional development planning. Train the Trainers workshops around the methodology focused on methodological adaptation and the definition of the Matrix of Functions. Data collection had to be adapted to a virtual process due to the pandemic. The results allowed for the identification of the

spatial structure of the country, the dependence between sectors and the gaps to be filled for a more distributed development. Alongside that, to develop the Strategic and Spatial Development Plan for the Bolama-Bijagós 2030 Region (Bolama-Bijagós 2030) remote data collection was conducted to evaluate the territory and the local perception of services and infrastructure.

A field project was undertaken to introduce the methodology to the local authorities of Bolama, Bubaque, Uno, and Caravela Sectors, as well as civil society, traditional leaders, and NGO representatives to have input and define vision and goals for the Spatial Development Plan.



Figure 15: Guinea Bissau Project launch event, held on February 6, 2020. The ceremony was chaired by the Secretary of State for Regional Plan and Integration, His Excellency Tomásia Manjuba, the Head of Cooperation of the Union Delegation European Union (EU) in Guinea-Bissau, Ms. Simona Sheleda and UN-Habitat's Mr. Edinilson Augusto da Silva"



Figure 16: Data collection workshop in Bolama, Guinea-Bissau, October 7, 2020.

In Guinea, UN-Habitat is working on a SANITA Sustainable Cities project driven by the Government and financed by the European Union. The aim of the project is to strengthen urban governance at the local and national levels by improving the legal and institutional framework for urban development and using a participatory approach. Under the tutelage of the Ministry of City and Regional Planning, UN-Habitat held series of engagements from September to December 2020 with dozens of national and local officials, universities and civil society representatives to review and validate key urban studies paving the way for the inclusive and participatory development of the Greater Conakry Master Plan, the National Urban Policy

and for updating the National Planning Scheme. Consultations also focused on the delimitation of Greater Conakry where selected pilot projects will be implemented to improve the living environment in some 10 vulnerable neighbourhoods in collaboration with the Participatory Slum Upgrading Programme (PSUP). Furthermore, UN-Habitat trained, some 20 urban officials on collection of urban data (agriculture, commerce, finance, health, education...) to help them understand the strengths and weaknesses of their urban agglomeration and embark towards the formulation of economic and urban development opportunities in support of the Greater Conakry Master Plan under development.



UN-Habitat in collaboration with UNDP supported a GIS training for County Spatial and Integrated Strategic Urban Development Plans for a total of 65 planners and surveyors from 37 counties. These planners were trained on the use of GIS to enable them to effectively prepare GIS-based county spatial plans.



Figure 17: Workshop in Conakry on neighbourhood selection. Photo credit: UNHABITAT/18 December 2020

In Kenya, UN-Habitat supported the County of Marsabit in the development of the Integrated Sustainable Urban Development Plan for Moyale town, which is a major economic hub shared by Kenya and Ethiopia. Key achievements following the planning of Moyale town in the region is improved infrastructure development & connectivity within the towns, increased opportunities for livelihoods, increased investment & trade, and improved land management.

In Rwanda the Spatial Development Framework (SDF) facilitated the implementation of the National Urbanization Policy (NUP) by strategically looking at the system of cities and towns, development corridors and priority development areas to understand where to invest first and why.

In Ethiopia UN-Habitat developed training modules for institutional capacity development as per the needs of the city. The training needs assessments was developed based on consultations with the Federal, Regional and City governments and informed by a compiled series of studies including social, environmental, GIS, economy. The key partner in the delivery of the project is the Ministry of Urban Development and Construction Governance while the cities are the key players. Further, UN-Habitat supported the revision of the structure plans (master plans) of Bahir Dar, Hawassa and Dire Dawa ensuring they promote sustainable, climate resilient and inclusive development.



Hawassa structure Plan 2020-2030 developed with UN-Habitat support



Figure 18: Participatory engagement with bureaus of Dire Dawa city administration in the development of the Structure plan process

Improved Revenue Collection

Local authorities in all parts of the world play an increasingly important role in the delivery of fundamental basic public services. But most local authorities in Africa face increasingly bigger challenges as a result of rapid and chaotic urbanization and the impacts of frequent natural disasters caused by climate change.

Additionally, they face a widening gap between the availability of financial resources and municipal spending needs. One of the main reasons for this increasing fiscal gap is the rapid growth of urban populations, which creates an ever-increasing demand for public services, new public infrastructure, and its maintenance. Sufficiency of a city's revenues is the key to an improved ability

to deliver necessary goods and services and for better accountability of local officials to their constituents.

UN-Habitat made progress in strengthening the capacity of local authorities to improve their municipal finance streams through its normative, advocacy and training initiatives. For example, in Somalia UN-Habitat, through the Joint Programme on Local Governance (JPLG) supported the Ministries of Interior for Somaliland and Puntland to introduce a mobile phone-based tax payment system which saw revenues increase. The local authority is using the funds to improve service delivery.

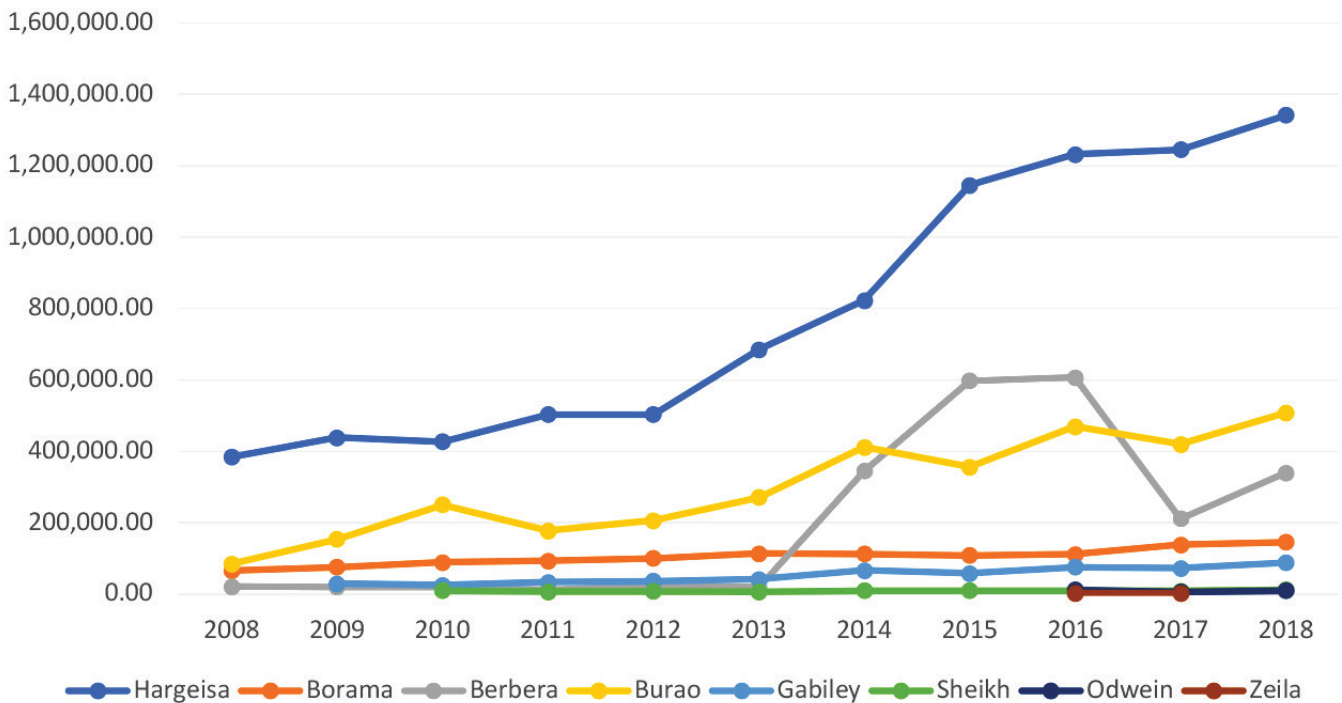


Figure 19: Revenue generation analysis of selected districts in Somaliland



Figure 20: 1.8 kilometre road serving Garowe town, in Puntland, renovated with funds raised through the new mobile tax collection system.

MOBILE MONEY PAYMENT

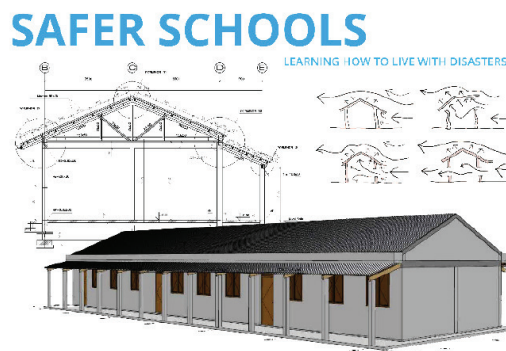
In collaboration with Somaliland and Puntland authorities, UN-Habitat deployed the first mobile tax payment in Somalia. The exercise was piloted in Garowe, Borama and Burao. Using phone-based payment system 'USSD', this approach provided

easy and convenient payment of tax through Sahal and Zaad services. This tech-based innovative tool proved to be safe and reliable tax administration tool amid COVID-19 concerns.

Building Climate Adaptation and City Resilience

UN-Habitat acts as a catalyst for connections and action in the global climate arena, linking global actors and policies to the local and national context. Under this sub-programme, UN-Habitat has addressed issues related to resilience, adaptation and mitigation strategies for the development of sustainable cities through curbing the impact of climate change, creating new economic opportunities and improving livability in cities and other settlements. In Mozambique, UN-Habitat has two-decades of experience in disaster risk reduction and urban resilience with interventions ongoing in 10 of 11 Provinces. UN-Habitat works

in the sector of housing, education and recently health, to better prepare and adapt cities and communities in Mozambique to climate shocks such as cyclones, floods, drought, heavy rain and strong winds. In the education sector, interventions included the rehabilitation and reconstruction of 400 resilient classrooms benefiting around 50,000 students in cyclone and disaster affected areas. In the housing sector, in partnership with the Mozambican government and local institutions and communities, UN-Habitat established and designed resilient housing, and participated in the establishment of the Housing Post-Cyclone Reconstruction Programme (PALPOC) at the national level. Building on its long-term experience with resilient schools, this year UN-Habitat in partnership with the Ministry of Health, also launched the Safer Hospitals programme with the objective of setting resilient and gender sensitive standards for health facilities to remain functional during crises and emergencies, and provide equitable health services to all.



The Success Story of Resilient Education Sector in Mozambique

*The Success Story of the Resilient Education Sector in Mozambique; **SAFER SCHOOL** LEARNING HOW TO LIVE WITH HAZARDS*

As a result of applying City Rap tool in 3 cities in Ethiopia, City Resilience Frameworks are developed for each city, and incorporate in the cities action plans, ensuring response and prevention of climate impact in the cities development. In towns and urban centers, UN-Habitat Ethiopia is supporting the government to respond to climate induced displacement by supporting assessments and advise on spatial planning of locations of the return and relocation of displaced communities.

Supporting Climate Change Policies

One of the objectives of UN-Habitat Regional Representation Strategy is to support climate change policies that combat the negative impacts of climate change and manage disaster risks. This includes preventing disease outbreaks and pandemics in cities and informal settlements. During 2020, interventions were undertaken to support the actualization of the policies and frameworks that curb the impact of climate change, create new economic opportunities and improve livability in cities.

In Rwanda, UN-Habitat supported the development of a framework on “Accelerating Climate Action through the promotion of Urban Low Emission Development Strategies 2017 – 2021”. This information combined with strengthened capacities of local governments and communities, supported the effective communication of the impacts of climate change, and the risks of landslide damage and flooding which threaten houses and infrastructure. This also enhanced the identification of means to reduce contributions to climate change. This strategy also achieved the development of a Joint Programme on Sustainable Cities aimed at supporting transformative change

in Rwanda through building sustainable and liveable cities for all. Other agencies involved include UNEP, FAO, UNWOMEN and ILO.

In Somalia, topics of urban resilience and climate change adaptation became part of the re-purposed workplan activities in various durable solutions projects to tackle protracted displacement after the outbreak of the COVID-19 pandemic. Urban resilience plans were drafted for various urban centres heavily affected by floods, droughts and desertification, such as Beledweyne, Jowhar, Dhusamareb and Hobyo. UN-Habitat's team cooperated with project partners such as UNDP, IOM, FAO and the regional and national teams for the Shelter, Protection and Camp Coordination and Management Clusters.

Results are reflected in the de-congestion guidelines and Standard Operation Procedures in collaboration with the Shelter and CCCM Clusters (<https://www.sheltercluster.org/somalia/documents/decongestion-guidance> / <https://reliefweb.int/report/somalia/somalia-standard-operating-procedures-sops-idp-site-decongestion>).

Improving Waste Management Systems

Improving livable cities also means contributing to the sustainable management of resources. This includes strengthening environmentally sound management and minimizing waste, including air and short-lived climate pollutants, and greenhouse gases in a way that strives to transition to a circular economy. It also requires government to work with all relevant partners to mainstream environmental considerations into local and national urban policy, making processes that highlight the local and global environmental issues.

In Kenya, UN-Habitat has been able to contribute to the implementation of Kisii County long-term strategy for Solid Waste Management (SWM). The aim of the project was to strengthen community-based SWM in Kisii Municipality, which was achieved by reducing the amount of waste to be landfilled through source separation and boosting recycling. This was achieved by piloting source separation and promotion of 3Rs (Reuse, Reduce, Recycle) in various locations within the municipality (In 1 market, 2 residential areas, and 1 public office) impacting approximately 2,834 people.



Figure 21: Two skips built at Suneka Market in Kisii County Kenya.



Figure 22: Installation of waste bins at the Department of Environment, Energy and Natural resources in Kisii County Kenya

In Ethiopia, UN-Habitat has supported the implementation of solid waste management project in Bair Dar through the introduction of Fukuoka method. The Fukuoka solid waste management method is responding to the urgent demand of improving the existing and increasing waste issues by designing a sustainable and efficient solid waste systems. It is a Japanese low-cost and simple environmental technology used to decrease the greenhouse gas emissions from landfill and ensure safety and efficiency of landfill sites. The project is also ensuring capacity and skills development of the city administration, through training and introduction to approaches and methods for sustainable and strengthened local governance in environmental engineering and management.



Figure 23: UN-Habitat Solid Waste management project in Bahir dar

New Framework with the Adaption Fund for Southern Africa

When crises occur, it is vital to base humanitarian responses on a shared understanding of the urban crisis environment. It is also important to empower local stakeholders, especially local governments, and focus on fast-tracking recovery and a return to more sustainable, inclusive and resilient urban development. It is therefore important to support cities and other settlements to resist and recover from shocks and stresses, while undergoing a transformation into more sustainable urban systems.

Thus, in June 2020 UN-Habitat officially launched the four-year regional project Building Urban Climate Resilience in South-Eastern Africa funded by the Adaptation Fund which is undertaking activities in Madagascar, Malawi, Mozambique, and the Union of Comoros with 14 Million United States Dollar from the fund.

The project's main objectives are:

- (i) to develop capacities and establish conditions to adapt to the adverse effects of climate change in vulnerable cities - specifically enhancing their resilience through activities organised around construction of resilient urban infrastructure, and developing guidelines and delivering trainings at the national level, and
- (ii) promoting inter-country experience sharing and cross-fertilisation regarding the adaptation to transboundary climate-related natural hazards and disseminate lessons learned among the four countries and other South African Development Community (SADC) Member States. Although with some delays due to COVID-19, activities have started in all four countries.



Figure 24: Representatives from the Union of Comoros attending the ceremonial launch event of the project "Building Urban Climate Resilience in South-Eastern Africa".

UN-Habitat has had a wealth of experience in urban resilience and has been supporting cities to integrate thinking and action on resilience into plans, processes and projects to ensure that cities can undertake, prepare, react and recover from hazards as well as reduce the need for humanitarian assistance. Although disrupted by the COVID-19 outbreak, 2020 saw UN-Habitat's participatory urban resilience planning tool CityRAP (City Resilience Action Planning) being used in several locations with various partners across the SADC region.

Beyond the region, preliminary work was undertaken for future CityRAP implementations in Kenya, Guinea-Bissau, and Angola. Additionally, through a collaboration between the Regional offices (Africa and Arab States) an adapted version of CityRAP was implemented for the first-time outside of Africa in Amman, Jordan, facilitating a south-south cooperation. The first module of the online version of CityRAP was also completed, and a virtual Training of Trainers is ongoing. This will provide an opportunity for wider utilization of the toolkit beyond the African region.

Strengthening Collaboration on Resilient Cities

Climate change is one of the greatest challenges facing African Cities. Faced with the worrying impacts of climate change (mostly drought), African countries have instituted rapid responses to strengthen the resilience of the most vulnerable populations. One of the programmes being implemented in the South Africa Development Community region funded by the World Bank on Strengthening Capacities for Reducing Urban Vulnerability and Building Resilience in Southern has made some progress. In terms of building the capacity of cities to design and implement disaster and risk reduction and urban resilience initiatives to reduce vulnerability and build the resilience of communities to natural and other disasters.

For example, Resilience Frameworks for Action have been City Resilient Action Plans have been implemented in Lusaka and Chipata (Zambia), Lilongwe (Malawi), Dondo (Mozambique), Mutare (Zimbabwe).

In the Republic of Congo, UN-Habitat has, been actively involved with the United Nations Country teams (UNCT) in the formulation of 3 joint programs to enhance resilience and post crisis recovery through: (i) support to indigenous people in accessing basic social services and natural resources (ii) support for COVID-19 recovery efforts and resilience, including peace building (iii) a joint programme on climate change.

Establishment of Durable Solutions to Crisis in Cities

UN-Habitat's work in this area focused on reducing urban risks and strengthening responses to urban crises by promoting inclusive, integrated "rebuilding by design" approaches, and by promoting resilience building in cities and human settlements. In doing so, settlements are better prepared for natural and human-made disasters and can rehabilitate in a way that advances sustainable urban development.

The Central Sahel region, which is facing a crisis of IDPs combined with extreme climate events such as floods, will benefit from the work already undertaken in parts of Africa especially the intervention in Bukina Faso on durable solutions for IDPs in secondary cities. In Madagascar, UN-Habitat developed project ideas to support emergency interventions in the Great South

(Atsimo Andrefana, Androy, Anosy) focusing on reducing the exposure of households and communities (in particular women, children and people vulnerable to malnutrition) to the effects of drought, poor access to water and poor living conditions. In Zimbabwe, The assessment of the destruction of human settlements from Cyclone Idai in Chimanimani provided lessons that fed into a finalized plan on reducing urban risks and strengthening responses to urban crises. In Somalia, UN-Habitat supported the government in infrastructure planning and development which included the completion and successfully pressure testing of the new 23km main pipeline between Hargeisa and Ged Deeble pumping station, a 3km gravel road in Midnimo village (Northern part of Kismayo city) that promotes accessibility into the main city for approximately over 8000 people.



Figure 25: UN-Habitat completed the 23 kilometre long main transmission line between the Ged Deeble wellfield and the Hargeisa water reservoir.



Figure 26 and 27: Constructed a 3km gravel road in Midnimo village (Northern part of Kismayo city); promoting accessibility to the main city for over 8000 people.

UN-Habitat supported assessments of the sites selected for relocation and return of internally displaced peoples in urban and rural areas, and performed spatial profiling of one of the largest IDPs settlement for potential local integration of IDPs by conversion of the settlement into an urban center. UN-Habitat assessments are participatory and engage government, local administrations IDPs, host communities and when possible consultations with women only, UN-Habitat Ethiopia is supporting the Durable Solutions Initiative as a member of the platform

and works to increase the engagement of the Urban development ministry in delivering durable solutions to IDPs. UN-Habitat program delivering durable solutions to displacement includes a partnership with UNHCR supporting the implementation of the Comprehensive Refugee Response Framework. UN-Habitat delivered the spatial profiling of one of oldest refugee camps and supports HCR in developing a joint assessment on HLP laws, policies applicable to selected refugee camps and urban refugees in the country.



Settlement profile of Kabrebeyah Refugee camp, Ethiopia



Figure 28: Qolaji IDPs settlement, December 2019

Response to Covid-19 Pandemic

Following the World Health Organization's declaration of the novel Coronavirus (COVID-19) outbreak as a global pandemic in March of 2020, UN-Habitat activated its emergency protocols and crisis response mechanisms. The COVID-19 Emergency Response Plan called for urgent and coordinated measures across three areas: staff safety and security, business continuity, and emergency programmatic response and coordination. UN-Habitat intensified efforts to mobilize new resources to deliver the UN-Habitat Response plan and scale up support to countries and cities.

This was done by reaching out to partners to minimize the disruptions to yearly workplans, reprogramming resources and channelling energy to contribute to the response within the framework of the business continuity plan. Through mobilized resources, the Regional Office for Africa was able

to undertake activities which targeted slums and informal settlements as a key priority as outlined in the COVID-19 Response and Recovery Strategy for Sub-Saharan Africa. In this regard, the focus was mostly on preparedness and response to the pandemic among the most vulnerable populations in urban settlements through delivering water, sanitation and hygiene facilities, urban data collection and monitoring, as well providing local authorities with messaging and advisory capacity on preparedness and response.

COVID-19 has brought into sharp focus the road to 2030 and the need for regional and cross-border collaboration to overcome the numerous challenges that stretch across borders that cannot be handled by any country alone. As such African countries were able to undertake measures to respond to the COVID-19 pandemic with support from UN-Habitat.

UN-HABITAT'S INSTITUTIONAL RESPONSE TO COVID-19 IN AFRICA

The concentration of COVID-19 cases in urban agglomerations has turned cities into the epicentre of the pandemic, bringing UN-Habitat to the forefront of the quest for a timely and much-needed response to the pandemic.

However, the reality is that our cities, long before the outbreak of the pandemic, were already facing numerous challenges. COVID-19 reinforced inequalities in access to public services (health, transport, electricity, leisure, education, security, etc.) and vulnerability to disasters and extreme events.

As a contribution to the global response to COVID-19, UN-Habitat's institutional response has been two-fold: situational impact analysis and financial support to national responses.

Firstly, research was carried out to gain a better understanding of the socio-economic impact of the disease on cities, and specifically on informal settlements and their residents. A study on the impact of COVID-19 on African cities was conducted in collaboration with the United Nations Economic Commission for Africa (ECA), the United Nations Capital Development Fund (UNCDF), United Cities and Local Governments of Africa (UCLGA), the African Development Bank (AfDB) and Shelter Afrique.

More specific surveys were conducted in a number of African countries with a focus on women, youth and people living with disabilities in relation to strengthening their livelihoods and access to services during the pandemic.

Secondly, concrete support was provided to national initiatives through the distribution of prevention kits, awareness raising and training on barrier actions and community mobilisation, financial support to and capacity building for small enterprises and social innovations in precarious neighbourhoods.

To this end, a special fund from the Executive Director of UN-Habitat, Ms. Maimunah Mohd Sharif, of one million dollars was set aside and distributed for emergency interventions.

Similarly, the Swedish International Development Cooperation Agency (SIDA) provided \$2 million to UN-Habitat to support national recovery efforts.

The following African countries have benefited from UN-Habitat's support in combating COVID-19: Cameroon, Guinea, Ethiopia, Kenya, Mozambique, Nigeria, Ghana, and Southern Sudan.

UN-Habitat is currently working to mobilise resources for collective solutions to the medium- and long-term impacts of COVID-19 in order to make cities more resilient in the future.

UN HABITAT JOINS HANDS WITH OTHER INSTITUTIONS TO ASSESS COVID-19 IMPACT ON AFRICAN CITIES

In June 2020, UN-Habitat, in collaboration with the United Nations Economic Commission for Africa (UNECA), the United Nations Capital Development Fund (UNCDF), United Cities and Local Governments of Africa (UCLG-A), the African Development Bank (AfDB) and Shelter Afrique, published a new report entitled "COVID-19 in African Cities: Impacts, Responses and Policies".

The 34-page report mobilized the attention of 23 experts from five continental and international organizations for two and a half months to examine the state of the pandemic in urban areas, the responses to it and the policies implemented in order to identify the way forward.

The report proposes several interventions to promptly and effectively address the challenges of COVID-19 in Africa at the urban level led by national and local governments supported by international and regional development institutions.

The COVID-19 pandemic is destroying lives and devastating the global economy, threatening sustainable development particularly in urban areas. Africa is also facing the dire consequences of the crisis, thus necessitating timely response, recovery and rebuilding policies and strategies.

CAMEROON

In the context of the national response to the COVID-19 pandemic defined in the emergency plan for the Republic of Cameroon, UN-Habitat provided effective support to municipal authorities in selected cities by developing participatory, inclusive and sustainable approaches in the informal sector for socio-economic recovery through hygiene, sanitation, the right to decent housing and access to basic infrastructure.

UN-Habitat developed approaches that promote partnership between municipal authorities and the community in association with other stakeholders to increase community engagement in the face of COVID-19. The initiative impacted three municipal councils; 120 local elected officials and representatives of civil society organizations, academia and public and private administration; 500 households representing 3,000 inhabitants.



Figure 29a: Enhancement of partnership with national institutions and local authorities in Douala, Yaoundé and Bafoussam for COVID-19 response and recovery in Cameroon.



Figure 29b: Signing of Agreements with municipalities



Figure 29c: Secretary General of Ministry of Housing during project launch ceremony

GHANA

In Ghana, UN-Habitat interventions targeted over 300,000 people in the informal settlements of Gamashie, Amuj Djor-Ashaiman and Sabon Zongo. Ten handwashing facilities for communal areas, four large water storage tanks, 185 hand washing facilities inside poor households, 4000

masks, 3720 (200ml) bottles of sanitizer, and 600 large containers of liquid soap were provided for all three communities. In addition, four standpipes for communal use were installed in Gamashie. This created employment for 50 women who made masks, liquid soap, and hand sanitizers. 50 youth were employed as plumbers for the installation of handwashing stations.



Figure 30: Accra, Ghana 16 November 2020 – The UN Deputy Secretary-General Amina J. Mohammed visited the informal settlements of Ussher Town and Jamestown in Ghana's capital which have been transformed by UN-Habitat's work with the government and community.



Figure 31, 32 and 33: Provision of WASH facilities and activities in Old Fadama and Gamashie, Ghana

GUINEA

In support to the Government's National Response Plan, UN-Habitat and 18 other partners teamed-up with an organization of people with disabilities and



"We really thank UN-Habitat for thinking about people living with a disability in the neighborhoods who are left behind. Since the outbreak of COVID-19, the situation has deteriorated completely. Because we don't receive clients anymore, people can't afford the price of sewing and they complain about the tough economic conditions,"

Sam Guilavogui, one of the community tailors.

other community tailors to produce face masks for distribution to the five municipalities of Conakry, the capital city of the Republic of Guinea.

This Multi-Stakeholder Solidarity Response against COVID-19 purchased and distributed prevention equipment, such as hand-washing machines, water tanks and face masks, in poor and vulnerable neighborhoods, crowded markets and mobility hubs across Conakry. Out of the 75,000 masks, 10,000 were made by the Association of People with Disabilities for Action and Development as well as other community tailors in the Municipality of Matoto.



Figure 34: People with disabilities and community tailors producing face masks for distribution to the five municipalities of Conakry, Guinea

GUINEA BISSAU

In response to COVID-19, UN-Habitat offered the Guinea-Bissau government cleaning kits to promote basic sanitation. These activities took place during the launch of Urban October. Eight

neighborhoods in the capital city participated, receiving cleaning kits with material to support capacity building in basic sanitation. These activities took place between October and December 2020 to compete for the position of the cleanest neighborhood in the city.



Figure 35: Association representatives from each participating neighborhood receiving a cleaning support kit during the opening ceremony of the Cleaning Championship and celebration of World Habitat Day (October 5, 2020, Guinea Bissau Government Palace)



Figure 36: Cleaning activities during competitions in the neighborhood of Pefine, Bissau

ETHIOPIA

UN-Habitat and the Government of Ethiopia worked together to redesign overcrowded city markets and set up temporary markets to help prevent the spread of COVID-19 in four cities (Addis Ababa, Bair Dar, Hawassa and Adama). For the Fara Gebaya market in Hawassa city, the new relocation site was 8000 square meters.

Handwashing facilities were set up at the Koshe dumpsite (rehabilitated by UN-Habitat) which covers about 36 hectares to prevent the spread of COVID-19. A video was produced on market rearrangement and advocacy on how to use open markets during COVID-19: <https://youtu.be/b1eDTuWZcWQ>



Figure 37: Redesign of overcrowded city markets in Ethiopia



Figure 38: Market rearrangement work in Ethiopia



Figure 39: Minister of Urban Development (female on the right) Ethiopia

KENYA

UN-Habitat interventions in response to COVID-19 focused on slums and informal settlements. These included seconding urban experts to the government of Kenya through UNCT and activating existing urban community networks.

A total of 73 Handwashing stations (8 permanent and 65 temporary) were established, achieving 3.4 million handwashes in six counties, which significantly contributed to COVID-19 mitigation.

Other activities undertaken were related to awareness raising. Matatus (privately owned minibuses used for public transportation in Kenya) were painted with key messages on COVID-19 in collaboration with the National Transport and Safety Authority (NTSA), which demonstrated the role of public transport in creating awareness over an issue. Public transport is essential for economic activities in cities and the livelihoods of people, but at the same time it can be a means of spreading safety messages during a pandemic. "Every single matatu carries around 300 people per day – that means that one sick matatu worker could infect 300 people per day. COVID-19 is here to stay with

us. The message on the matatus goes beyond COVID-19 – it is going to change the overall general public health in our transport system" – Mr. George Njao, Director General of the NTSA during the launch event on 8 June 2020. <https://www.sutp.org/using-public-transport-to-create-awareness-on-covid-19-a-kenyan-invention/>

In Kisumu the COVID-19 Multi-Agency Group on Informal Settlements (KCMAGIS) was established and is fully functional. Through this, young people were enrolled in Technical and Vocational Training (TVETS) to sharpen vocational skills. Community groups of People Living With Disabilities (PWDs) in 7 informal settlements enrolled in the TVET to train and produce quality face masks for distribution to the community. UN-Habitat mapped out facilities and services that could be useful in the recovery phase in informal settlements in Kisumu (Manyatta, Obunga, Obunga, Bandani, Kaloleni and Nyawita). Based on the data collection and mapping exercises, suitable locations for installation of COVID-19 facilities in the informal settlements were identified and sanitation infrastructure installed. See newspaper cutting and photo of the Governor below.

In addition, UN-Habitat worked with partners and community volunteers to collect data on 15 key facilities connected to COVID-19 transmission, prevention and treatment in 12 informal settlements and slums to enable the authorities and other stakeholders to identify key gaps in response activities.

UN-Habitat also contributed to facility and partner mapping surveys in 14 informal settlements. The data informed the efforts at the national level in coordination with the government and UNCT. <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=0iSXMfkimM>

From this survey 4 policy briefs on handwashing facilities, education facilities, solid waste management and COVID-19 were prepared.



Fig 40: Handwashing demonstration activity in Nakuru City

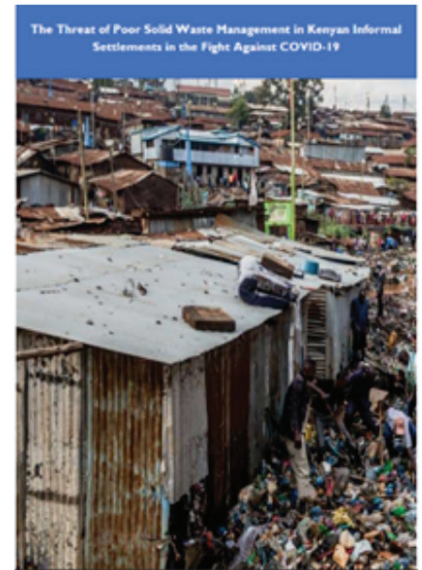
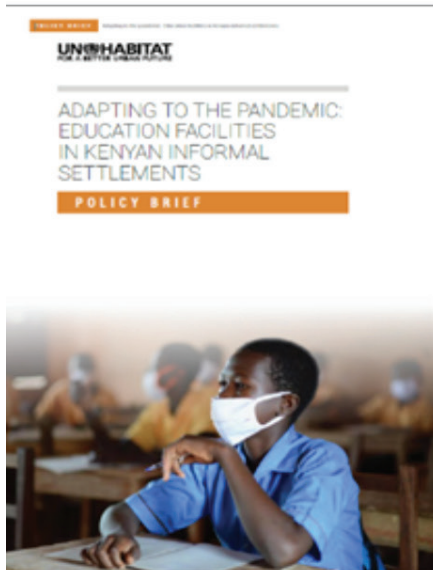


Figure 41, 42 and 43: Policy brief following the facilities and partner mapping in 4 informal settlements in Kenya

MADAGASCAR

In Madagascar, COVID-19 interventions were undertaken starting with a concept note on the impacts, responses and prospects of the right to adequate housing for a sustainable socio-economic recovery of Madagascar was developed in consultation with key national actors of the United Nations system and the Ministry of Land Use Planning and Public Works. The objectives of the exchange included (i) to make local elected officials, the private sector and associations aware of the concept of the right to adequate housing and its scope in Madagascar, (ii) to identify the effects of the COVID-19 pandemic on the right to adequate housing and the responses, (iii) to identify the effects of the COVID-19 pandemic on the production of new housing and the layout of existing living environments and (iv) to discuss the measures taken by national and municipal authorities to strengthen the right to adequate housing in the context of COVID-19, particularly for women and girls who are heads of household.

MOZAMBIQUE

In March 2020, UN-Habitat Mozambique facilitated the establishment of an Urban Task Force (UTF) acting as secretariat, that is composed by national and local governments and development partners and is coordinated by the government of Mozambique. The aim of the Urban Task Force is to promote the exchange of best practices and to coordinate between municipalities and the central government, as well as enhance communication and partnership between municipalities and development partners.

UN-Habitat worked with the local Association Mapeando Meu Bairro to support 12 municipalities in strategic planning and mapping to prioritize locations and interventions to promote access to water, hygiene, sanitation and reliable prevention information in vulnerable locations with a focus on informal settlements. These tools have been

used and will continue to support the response to COVID-19 in municipalities, based on real and verified data.

More than 14 municipal officials were trained with a capacity building approach to take ownership of the initiatives, thus increasing knowledge in planning and implementing activities in the COVID-19 response in urban areas.

In partnership with local and international organizations, 95 activists were trained in cities to raise awareness on WASH and other specific COVID-19 prevention measures in key vulnerable locations of urban areas (e.g. informal settlements, markets, transport terminals). Trainings on prevention measures were also delivered to vulnerable people.

Vulnerable people in informal settlements now have access to reliable information on COVID-19 prevention, hygiene and protection, and municipalities have better access to water and sanitation facilities.

At least 95,500 people benefitted from the 75 innovative hand washing stations accessible for all designed and installed by UN-Habitat in partnership with UNICEF in the 12 municipalities.

Moreover, around 40,000 people in high density informal settlements benefitted from the rehabilitation of 21 water wells, which will also ensure more reliable and sustainable water access after the pandemic.

Hygiene and protection materials were also delivered to vulnerable communities with poor access to water and sanitation services. More than 16,000 people received these materials, with elders and disadvantaged women being prioritized. More than 1,000 disinfection kits composed of hand sanitizer or soap and surface cleaning material was also delivered to public transport drivers and market sellers.



Figure 44: COVID-19 response assistance to 12 municipalities in Mozambique, which including market reorganization, PPE distribution, the installation of 60 handwashing stations, and recovering 27 boreholes, all of which benefitted more than 250,000 people

NIGERIA

In Nigeria, UN-Habitat COVID-19 support focused in Karu Local Government Area (LGA) in Nassarawa State. Interventions involved carrying out emergency WASH, health and other urban planning interventions in the peri-urban settlements in Nassarawa State (this state is adjacent to Abuja Federal Capital Territory) to mitigate the negative health and socio-economic

impacts of the pandemic. Through funding from the Swedish International Development Agency (SIDA), UN-Habitat provided 5 solar boreholes to communities in Karu LGA and launched an urban profiting and planning project. Key achievements include a cleaner urban environment in Karu LGA; improved livelihood of 160 empowered youths engaged in the WASH and waste management. Women and children were equipped with advocacy and communication materials to increase awareness on COVID-19.



Figure 45 and 46: Commissioning of renewable solar water supplies and handing over to the community leaders in Karu LGA, Nassarawa State.
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=N8MdgHTtA0E>

SOMALIA

In Somaliland, UN-Habitat interventions in response to COVID-19 focused on WASH, health promotion and infection prevention, awareness campaigns, cash transfer and social safety nets for the vulnerable. UN-Habitat supplied one million litres of clean water to Internally IDPs in two settlements on the outskirts of Hargeisa. The intervention was part of the efforts to prevent the spread of COVID-19 and distributed water to over 2000 beneficiaries. At the outset, vulnerable households in Jimcaale and the Ayaha IV IDP settlements that lacked bulk water storage facilities were provided 300 litre containers. In July

and August, the settlements were each supplied with 500,000 litres of water by water tankers. The activities were part of a EU funded COVID-19 mitigation intervention under the Hargeisa urban water supply upgrading project (HUWSUP) and implemented jointly with Hargeisa Water Agency. UN-Habitat also provided stocks of soap & water to the existing handwashing stations set-up in different strategic locations within the settlements. Other UN-Habitat COVID-19 interventions in Somalia included; provision of cash transfers to 2,875 vulnerable households, 255 WASH facilities, 1,000,000 liters of water and water trucking services for the handwashing stations.

COVID-19 RESPONSE IN SOMALIA

- 1 Million litres of water supplied to IDPs in Hargeisa
- 100 tanks with 300L capacity each were donated to vulnerable households in Jimcaale and Ayaha IV IDP settlements
- 2,300 beneficiaries received their first cash transfer installment of 35 USD per household in Mogadishu
- 575 households received 3 months cash transfer of 60 USD per household in Berbera
- 205 hand washing stations set up in Mogadishu
- In Kismayo 2,200 IDP households supplied with water



Figure 47, 48, 49 and 50: Provision of cash transfers, WASH facilities and water trucking services for the handwashing stations

SOUTH SUDAN

In South Sudan, UN-Habitat's intervention in response to COVID-19 focused on 4 main pillars which included: cleaning campaigns and dialogues, installation of handwashing facilities, making of liquid soap and profiling of Juba City. The project focused on COVID-19 mitigation in urban areas with an emphasis on markets and informal settlements in Juba City. Key achievement included training 28 women and 2 youth in liquid soap making

and the fabrication of 20 hand washing stations. As of March 2021, the installation process of 20 handwashing stations is still ongoing. In terms of profiling Juba City, data collection was undertaken to provide a basis for future planning of the city and the formulation of evidence-based policies. Weekly cluster meetings with the municipality and key partners were also undertaken in preparation for the cleaning campaigns and dialogue, and protective clothing and equipment for the clean-up campaign were procured.



Figure 51: Training in liquid soap making (Source: Grace Nyoka)



Figure 52: Installed handwashing station in Juba

TANZANIA

In Tanzania, UN-Habitat and the European Investment Bank (EIB) provided 14 dedicated handwashing stations to reduce the spread of COVID-19 in informal settlements in the Mwanza region of Northern Tanzania. Two thirds of people in the region's capital live in informal settlements and COVID-19 cases were increasing in the area.

Multiple tap handwashing stations were installed, including a 5000 litre water tank, water basins and soap placed in public places, markets and health centres. In collaboration with Mwanza Urban Water and Sanitation Company (MWAUWASA) the project installed 100 additional water standpipes in vulnerable communities and water disconnections were suspended for the duration of the pandemic in vulnerable communities.

Key Achievements and Partnerships

PARTNERSHIPS AND ADVOCACY

Key achievements were recorded as UN-Habitat established new partnerships and embarked on new collaborations with relevant global, regional, sub-regional and national partners.

CENTER OF EXCELLENCE FOR HOUSING IN WEST AFRICA

The issue of housing is addressed through implementation of programmes at the country level. However, the partnership that has been established through the Center of Excellence on Housing for the Members of the West African Economic and Monetary Union WAEMU (8 Countries) sub-region, at the University of Ouagadougou (ISSP) will provide the needed research and debate in the housing sector in West Africa and Africa in general.

SOUTHERN AFRICAN DEVELOPMENT COMMUNITY (SADC)

Partnership with regional bodies such as SADC working on Urban Climate Change Resilience projects has ensured the scaling up of the CityRap tool in 16 SADC countries. The CityRAP tool developed by UN-Habitat and Disaster Risk Management Sustainability and Urban Resilience (DiMSUR) technical centre has had a very positive impact at the regional, national, local and community levels. The tool has enabled communities to further understand and plan actions aimed at reducing risks and building resilience through the development of a Resilience Framework for Action.

AFRICAN UNION SPECIALIZED TECHNICAL COMMITTEE ON PUBLIC SERVICE, LOCAL GOVERNMENTS, URBAN DEVELOPMENT AND DECENTRALIZATION (AU / STC 8)

UN-Habitat has continued its exemplary partnership with the Africa Union through the AU-STC 8. The AU-STC 8 which is technically backstopped by UN-Habitat on urban and housing related issues, held an Extraordinary Bureau on 10 June 2020 by videoconference to consider strategies and actions to support the continental response strategy to the COVID-19 pandemic.

The overall objective of the AU-STC 8 Bureau Meeting was to inform the Bureau Members about the state of activities undertaken at the AU-STC 8 secretariat during the COVID-19 emergency, as well as to provide a platform for the members of the AU-STC 8 Bureau to discuss the role of the AU STC 8 in supporting member States' efforts to respond, recover and rebuild. Issues discussed included: (a) COVID-19 implications on human settlements and urbanization, public service delivery and decentralization; (b) the report of activities undertaken by the Secretariat of AU-STC 8 during COVID-19; and (c) the AU-STC 8 Action Plan for Response to COVID-19 and preparation for post COVID-19.

Further, the Harmonised Framework for the Implementation of the New Urban Agenda in Africa which was jointly procuded by UNECA, AUC and UN-Habitat was finalized and published and can be accessed at: <https://repository.uneca.org/handle/10855/43924>.

UNITED NATIONS ENVIRONMENT PROGRAMME (UNEP)

In a partnership between the United Nations Environment Programme and UN-Habitat, the two agencies launched the GO Blue project. With funding from the European Union, the four-year programme is a EUR 25 million initiative. The programme aims to harness important coastal and marine resources to achieve a sustainable blue economy and bring jobs to over 3,000 youth and women. It will also support land and sea planning and the environment as well as maritime law enforcement.

Lessons Learnt And Opportunities



- Active presence and participation at the United Nations Country Teams (UNCT) and Project Management Teams is key to position UN-Habitat's agenda and influence the Common Country Assessment and UN Sustainable Development Cooperation Framework.



- Diversification of working languages will help expand opportunities for resource mobilization in French, Spanish and Portuguese speaking countries.



- The COVID-19 crisis though unprecedented, created an opportunity to address structural vulnerabilities and inequalities. It was an opportunity to institutionalize community led-response systems; rely on social dialogue; empower local governments; scale-up community and city level resilience; and enhance legal and institutional frameworks.



- The emergency response initiatives allowed UN-Habitat to leverage existing partnerships for portfolio development and resource mobilization. UN-Habitat was in a favourable situation to start or continue building a trusted network of partners from the public and private sector as well as at the grassroots level. There is a need to ride the momentum created to strengthen public participation at the grassroots level and build the necessary public-private-community partnerships with local authorities for resource mobilization on specific interventions.

KEY PARTNERS AND DONORS

Government, Civil Society Organizations, Academia, Private Sector, Research Institutions Community-based Organizations, Youth and Women's Groups, ECA with the Economic resilience program (Ghana, Cameroun, Madagascar)

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