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**From:** UNHABITAT-DonorRelations

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**To:** Xuesai Ma

**Subject:** Check out the latest issue of the Urban Impact newsletter - ISSUE 17

Urban**impact**

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## Urban October

Urban October was established to raise awareness, promote participation, generate knowledge and engage the international community in creating a better urban future.

Every October, UN-Habitat organizes activities, events and discussions on urban sustainability. It is an opportunity to join conversations about the challenges and opportunities created by the fast pace of change in our cities and towns. National and local governments, universities, non-governmental organizations, and communities are encouraged to participate in activities, events, and discussions or organize their own.

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## The Eleventh Session of the World Urban Forum

### Transforming our cities for a better urban future

Held from 26 – 30 June 2022, the 11th session of the **World Urban Forum (WUF11)** was convened against the backdrop of the “triple C crises” of the COVID-19 pandemic, climate disasters, and conflicts.

WUF11 attracted 17,003 attendees from 158 countries, with 10,799 participants attending in person. Approximately three-quarters of participants came from Europe, while participants from Africa and Asia accounted for 7.5% and 8.7%, respectively. Gender parity was achieved with a representation of 47% women and 53% men. Among the 630 session speakers, 52% were women, setting a new record for the number of female speakers in the World Urban Forum.

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## **Commonwealth Heads of Government Meeting Business Forum**

The Commonwealth Heads of Government Meeting Business Forum took place in Kigali, Rwanda, from 21 – 23 June 2022. In attendance was Ms Maimunah Mohd Sharif, Under Secretary General and Executive Director of UN-Habitat, where she participated as a panelist during the Future Cities session. In her remarks, Ms Maimunah highlighted the challenges faced in achieving Sustainable Goal 11 and the three priorities of UN-Habitat: housing, climate change and SDG localisation. She also encouraged participants to support the Call to Action on Sustainable Urbanisation across the Commonwealth.

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## **Africities Summit**

### **The Role of Intermediary Cities of Africa in the Implementation of Agenda 2030 of the United Nations and the African Union Agenda 2063**

The Africities summit was held from 17-21 May and brought together over 11,000 participants from academia, community groups, and local and national government from 100 countries to promote sustainable urban development in Africa through sustainable mobility and public space development in secondary cities. One of the key highlights of the forum was the launch of the Kisumu Freedom Park Public Space Facelifting and the Kisumu High-Level Bike Ride by Kisumu Governor Prof. Peter Anyang' Nyong'o, Ms Maimunah Mohd Sharif, Under Secretary General and Executive Director of UN-Habitat and UCLGA Secretary General Elong Mbassi. UN-Habitat also engaged with partners in



25 technical sessions and thematic side events to identify solutions to contemporary challenges of urbanisation in Africa and make commitments to address these issues.

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## Accelerating Sustainable Development

### Outcomes of the High-Level Meeting on the implementation of the New Urban Agenda

On 28 April 2022, a High-Level General Assembly meeting (HLM) was convened in New York to assess progress on implementing the New Urban Agenda (NUA).

The great attendance of 87 Member States reaffirmed the importance of the New Urban Agenda in achieving the SDGs. The HLM was preceded by a special meeting on Sustainable Urbanization and the New Urban Agenda in the Economic and Social Council (ECOSOC) and twenty side events, including the World Assembly on Local and Regional Governments.

The **President of the General Assembly's summary report of the high-level meeting** is now available. The meeting's objectives were to strategically reposition the New Urban Agenda as a road map for accelerating sustainable development, climate action, and building peace, and to recognise the importance of cities and transformative actions for ensuring a more just, sustainable recovery from the COVID-19 pandemic.

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## UN-Habitat increases its focus on urban crises prevention and response

The Eleventh Session of the World Urban Forum saw its first extraordinary dialogue on Urban Crisis Prevention and Response as part of a broader urban crisis track. The WUF 11 outcome document recognises that we face a future with rising urban crises and highlights the role of mayors as both first responders and visionaries who can accelerate the transformation towards a better urban future in the recovery from crises. A better urban future will require overcoming the multiple crises increasingly converging in cities. The climate emergency, the massive disruption of the COVID-19 pandemic in cities and communities, the global housing crisis, growing inequalities, the breakdown of the social contract, and the increasingly urban nature of conflict and war are devastatingly impacting people and places behind.

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## The World Urban Campaign: A New Leadership for a New Vision

In June 2022, the **World Urban Campaign (WUC)** partners elected their new Steering Committee, a decision-making body to agree on a common vision, engagement, communication, and outreach for the campaign platform, gathering some 230 member organisations from 16 constituencies.

Analia Lourdes Pastran, Executive Director of Smartly Social Entrepreneurship on the SDGs, and Sri Husnaini Sofjan, Senior Program Advisor with the Huairou Commission, have been **elected as co-Chairs to lead the Committee**, made of 21 members. WUC members met in Katowice on 28 June 2022 during the **Eleventh Session of the World Urban Forum (WUF 11)** and agreed on a new

road map for action that will focus on the climate emergency and the crisis of inequalities, guided by the SDGs and the New Urban Agenda.

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## Annual Report 2021

In 2021, conflict, pandemic and climate emergencies continued to shape the challenges faced by human settlements. UN-Habitat was able to strengthen its efforts to help Member States to respond to new vulnerabilities and risks. Our normative guidance combined with demonstrated projects succeeded in creating conducive conditions for sustainable and inclusive recovery and resilience at the local level.

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## World Cities Report 2022

The World Cities Report is UN-Habitat's Flagship report for global reporting on sustainable urbanisation trends at the local, national and global levels. The 2022 edition of the report, entitled ' 'Envisaging the Future of Cities,' ' was prepared in collaboration with 95 colleagues, consultants and partners across the world and with the financial support of the Government of Sweden, Poland and the United Arab Emirates.

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## Integrating the SDGs in Urban Project Design: Recommendations from the Global Future Cities Programme

This is a handbook on how to design SDG-oriented urban projects guidance in collaboration between the public sector, private sector and civil society through an iterative method that goes beyond the "business as usual approach" to sustainable urban development. It is based on experiences from the Global Future Cities Programme (GFCP), a three-year 80 million GBP (\$106.8 million) multi-partner initiative funded by the United Kingdom.

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UN-Habitat's  
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ARAB STATES

## **Returnees receive the keys to their apartments in Bab Sinjar Housing Complex under UN-Habitat**

More than two thousand returnees received the keys to their homes in the Bab Sinjar Housing Complex in Mosul, Iraq, under UN-Habitat's project, funded by the government of Japan, to ensure returnees have access to adequate and dignified housing.

The destruction of homes has been the major obstacle for displaced citizens trying to settle back in their areas of origin. Ninewa governorate, of which Mosul is the provincial capital, has the highest number of vulnerable people, with more than 260,000 returnees living in deplorable conditions.

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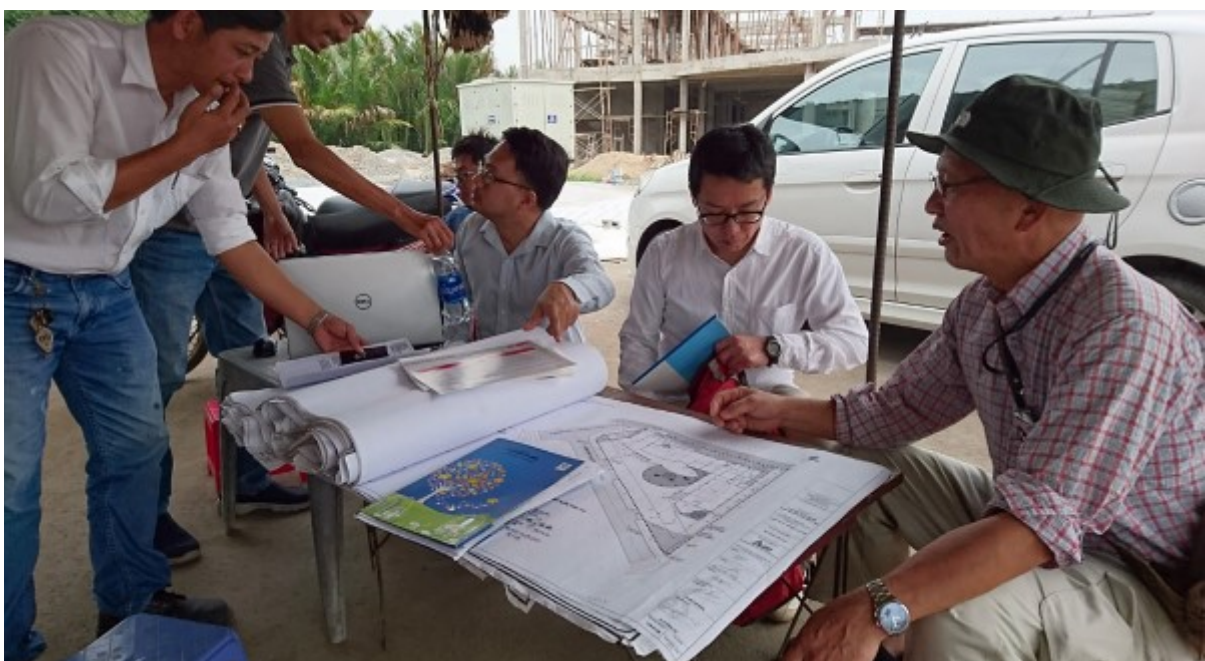


AFRICA

## **UN-Habitat's project provides community-driven services in Burkina Faso by applying integrated and area-based approaches**

As of April 2022, Burkina Faso accounted for 1.9 million internally displaced people (IDPs) due to ongoing armed conflict, with many IDPs seeking refuge in cities. With already strained resources, local authorities are struggling to provide adequate support and respond to the growing demands in their municipalities as some cities have doubled or tripled their populations in less than two years.

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## Gateway to sustainable, green and resilient urban development

Connecting past and future, UN-Habitat's Executive Director, Maimunah Mohd Sharif, started her visit to Japan, Singapore and Malaysia. This trip commenced with the 25th-anniversary celebration of UN-Habitat's Regional Office for Asia and the Pacific, ROAP, in Fukuoka and participation in the **13th Asia Pacific City Summit**. On the occasion, several media organizations conducted **press interviews** and published materials on **Building cities fit for human needs** and **Getting our cities 'right'**.

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## Implementing the New Urban Agenda in Cuba

From 2017 to date, UN-Habitat, the National Institute of Territorial and Urban Planning of Cuba and with the support of the Swiss Agency for Development and Cooperation, implemented the New Urban Agenda through capacity building, fostering the exchange of local experiences, and updating urban planning tools in all the country's provinces.

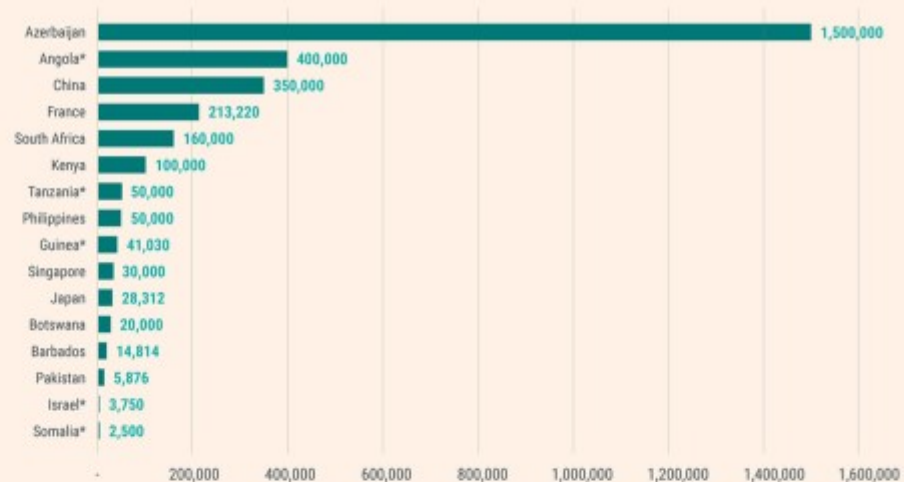
Cuba is the first country in the region and the second worldwide to report a State Plan for the implementation of the New Urban Agenda. Currently, the Plan covers 29 municipalities and is implemented through intersectoral coordination.

The main goal is to reduce spatial inequality and poverty, enhanced shared prosperity, strengthen climate action and promote effective crisis response. It also prioritizes territories with less development and groups in vulnerable conditions.

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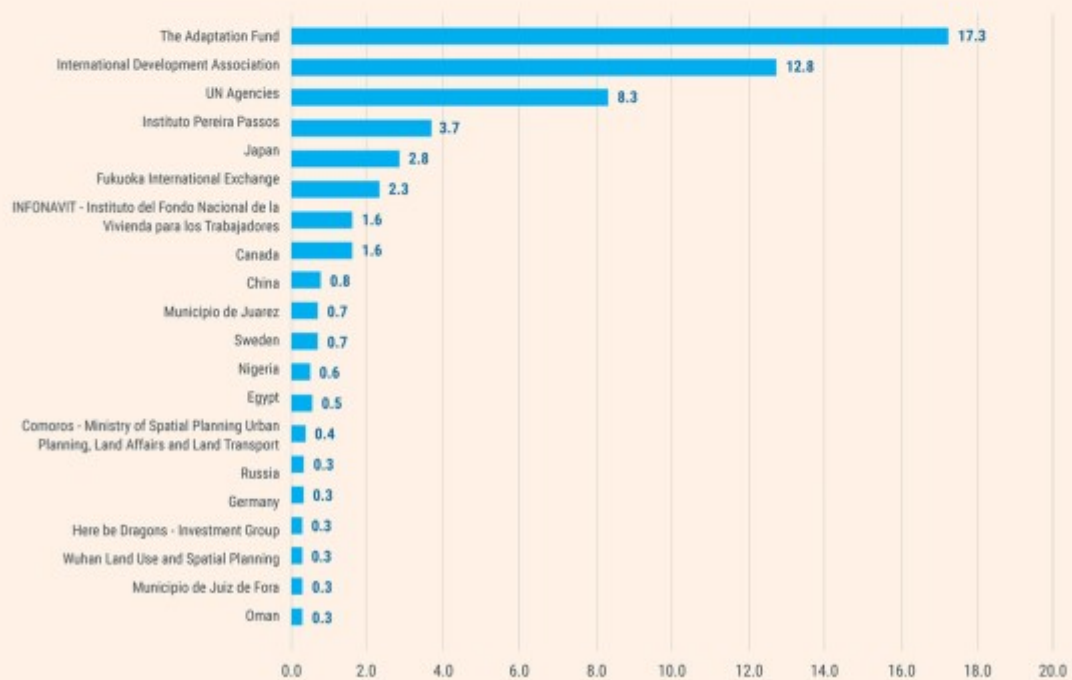
## Financial Update

Non earmarked Core Contributions Donors in 2022 in USD



\*Includes previous years' contributions

Highest Earmarked Grants to UN-Habitat Jan - June 2022 in USD millions



## Upcoming Events and Meetings

**G7 ministers of sustainable urban  
development** 13 - 14 September 2022

Potsdam, Germany

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**IWA World Water Congress and  
Exhibition – Water for smart, liveable  
cities** 22 September 2022

Copenhagen, Denmark

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**Urban October**  
01 – 31 October 2022

Global

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**World Habitat Day**  
03 October 2022

Balikesir, Turkiye

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**World Cities Day**  
31 October 2022

Shanghai, China

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**58th ISOCARP World Planning Congress**  
**– From Wealthy to Healthy Cities**  
03 – 07 October 2022

Brussels, Belgium

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**World Migratory Bird Day**  
09 October 2022

Global

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**UCLG World Congress**  
10 – 14 October 2022

Daejeon City, South Korea

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FOR A BETTER URBAN FUTURE



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