

Join Habitat UNI & partner with UN-Habitat (or renew current membership)

Promote the role of higher education in
the Decade of Action for sustainable urbanisation

Are you an individual or an institution belonging to the academic and scientific community engaged in higher education and research in the field of sustainable urban development?

Do you want to build innovative partnerships and initiatives together with UN-Habitat to advance education, practical research and increase the capacities of urban practitioners worldwide?

If so, then this call is for you.

After more than 10 years since its creation, under the leadership of its current Chair, Dr Sahar Attia from Cairo University and co-Chair, Dr Bruce Stiftel, from Georgia Institute of Technology, Habitat UNI is seeking new ways of collaborating to build effective linkages between scholars and tertiary educators on one hand and UN-Habitat on the other to achieve the SDGs and the New Urban Agenda (NUA).

WHAT is Habitat UNI

UN-Habitat University Network Initiative (Habitat UNI) is UN-Habitat's global partnership with universities. The initiative began in 2008 with the vision for partner universities and individual members to support the normative and operational work of UN-Habitat through research, education and capacity building.

UNI's mission is to:

- Promote cooperation between UN-Habitat and universities and facilitates exchange and collaboration among universities globally
- Enables universities to become closer partners of cities, actively engaged in problem solving
- Aim to close the gap between academia and practice encouraging collaborative learning
- Aspire to create the next generation of urban leaders, managers, researchers and practitioners



Read about Habitat UNI's history including past activities
and achievements from its creation in 2008 [>>](#)

WHY Habitat UNI?

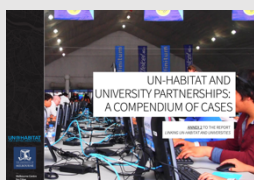
UN-Habitat in its [Capacity Building Strategy](#) approved by Member States in 2020 acknowledges the need for an expanded, closer, and coordinated collaboration with academic entities worldwide to tap into their knowledge, expertise, and experience.

Academic entities are crucial in training and preparing the next generation of urban professionals, are laboratories for innovative approaches in education and knowledge creation, and have a strong grasp on evidence-based knowledge such as through research with the potential to trigger policy changes. They are pivotal in the effective implementation of the urban dimension of the Sustainable Development Goals.

UN-Habitat aims to strengthen its partnership with universities through Habitat UNI by providing a space for academic stakeholders to discuss the latest urban trends that could impact the transformation of cities, identify and bridge the gap between theoretical and practical knowledge, inform decisions made by UN-Habitat and create collaborative pathways to multiply the dissemination of knowledge, relevant tools, and instruments including through effective North/South South/South cooperation.



*Read our strategic analysis on
UN-Habitat-university knowledge partnerships [>>](#)*



Read a compendium of case studies on how UN-Habitat and universities have collaborated in the past including the nature of collaboration and type of knowledge outputs [>>](#)

WHO can join as a member/partner?

Individuals and institutions belonging to the academic and scientific community engaged in higher education and research in the field of sustainable urban development

- **Individual membership** is available for anyone to sign up with their own name and credentials.
- **Institutional partners** can be universities, university departments, and other relevant organisations (each institution must nominate one person as the focal point of contact)
- If you are a representative of an institution, we encourage you to subscribe both on behalf of your institution AND as an individual member. This will ensure that you receive maximum representation.

WHAT do you get as a member/partner?

Individual membership:

- Opportunities to share your work and collaborate with other researchers and urban practitioners for trans-disciplinary interactions
- First to hear news, opportunities, and recent publications
- Access a global repository of urban knowledge
- Opportunity to join Steering Committee leadership team of Habitat UNI

Institutional partner:

- Raise awareness for work done within your organisation and initiate collaborations with other partners
- Link up to existing UN-Habitat projects and partners in cities
- Engage your institution with practical application of knowledge in real-world development context
- Engage your institution in the preparation of events focusing on academia at the World Urban Forum



Read about our activities at WUF 11 summarizing key takeaways from our engagement with stakeholders in academia >>

WHEN is the deadline?

The call is open all year round. However only members who renew their membership or sign up before **14 February 2023** can be nominated and/or vote in the next Steering Committee election.

WHAT is coming up?

Are you ready to engage, propose and drive new ideas and initiatives? **Join us as we plan the new direction for UNI in the next few months:**

- Launch of UNI website and social media
- Renewal of the UNI Steering Committee
- Revision of UNI Charter and Terms of Reference
- Joint work plan towards the World Urban Forum 12 to be held in 2024



Already a member?

Renew your membership by following the same sign-up link below to continue receiving the benefits of the UNI network

>> CLICK HERE TO SIGN UP AS A UNI PARTNER/MEMBER <<