



UNITED NATIONS HUMAN SETTLEMENTS PROGRAMME
Regional Office for Arab States, Cairo, Egypt
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FOR A BETTER URBAN FUTURE

New hosts of World Habitat Day and World Cities Day announced

Nairobi/Kenya, 8 June 2023 – UN-Habitat unveiled the next hosts for the global observance of Urban October. The announcement was made on the sidelines of the second session of United Nations Habitat Assembly that is taking place in Nairobi, Kenya from 5 to 9 June 2023.

World Habitat Day 2023 and World Habitat Day 2024 will be hosted in the city of Baku, Azerbaijan, and in the city of Querétaro, United Mexican States respectively. World Cities Day 2023 will be hosted by the municipality of Üsküdar in Istanbul, Türkiye.

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

“Urban October, World Habitat Day and World Cities Day are a great opportunity to raise awareness and push for immediate action in cities and communities,” said Maimunah Mohd Sharif, the Executive Director of UN-Habitat during the official unveiling ceremony.

UN-Habitat collaborates with partners every October to plan a month of events, activities, and discussions on urban sustainability. Urban October gives an opportunity for people globally to participate in the conversation about the challenges and opportunities created by the rapid rate of change in our cities and towns.

First celebrated in 1986, World Habitat Day reflects on the state of our towns and cities and the fundamental right to adequate shelter for all. Every year, a new city is selected to host the global event which takes place on the first Monday of October.

Since its inception, 31 cities have hosted the global celebration of World Habitat Day. One of the highlights of the celebration is the presentation of the UN-Habitat Scroll of Honor Award.

World Cities Day brings Urban October to an end on 31 October. Similar to World Habitat Day, global anniversaries focused on specific themes are held in different cities each year. It celebrates cities and fosters cooperation between nations to meet the challenges of urbanization and seize new opportunities.

About Urban October



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Each October, everyone interested in sustainable urbanization from national and local governments to universities, NGOs and communities are encouraged to hold or participate in activities, events, and discussions to promote a better urban future.

To learn more, visit the forum website at urbanoctober.unhabitat.org.

About the UN Human Settlements Programme (UN-Habitat)

UN-Habitat is the United Nations agency responsible for sustainable urbanization. It has programmes in more than 90 countries that help policy makers and communities build socially and environmentally sustainable cities and communities. UN-Habitat facilitates urban transformation through knowledge, policy advice, technical assistance and collaborative action.

For more information, please contact:

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