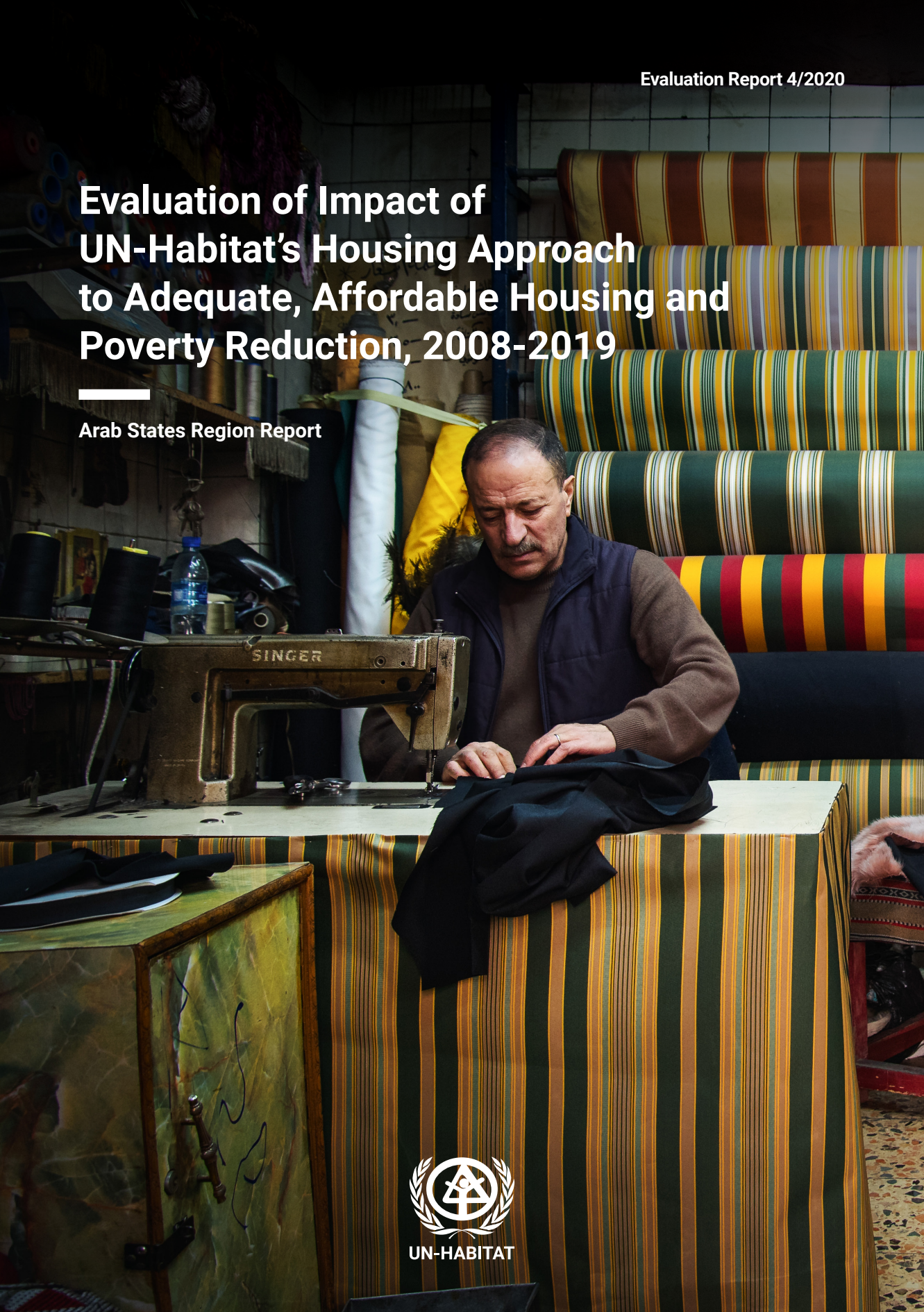
Evaluation Report 4/2020

Evaluation of Impact of UN-Habitat's Housing Approach to Adequate, Affordable Housing and Poverty Reduction, 2008-2019

Arab States Region Report



UN-HABITAT

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Arab States Region Report

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United Nations Human Settlements Programme (UN-Habitat)
P. O. Box 30030, 00100 Nairobi GPO KENYA
www.unhabitat.org

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Social housing apartments offered by the ministry of housing in Egypt. © Shutterstock/Marwa Elsayed

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LIST OF ABBREVIATIONS AND ACRONYMS

AMFHUD	Arab Ministerial Forum for Housing and Urban Development
ASUD	Achieving Sustainable Urban Development Priorities
CA	Contribution Analysis
CBO	Community-based organization
CO	Country Office
CPD	Country Programme Document
CPI	City Prosperity Index
CSO	Civil society organization
DPGUD	Development Partners Group on Urban Development
DRC	Democratic Republic of Congo
EA	Expected Accomplishment
EDP	Executive Development Programme
ENOF	Enhanced normative and operational framework
FA	Focus Area
FAO	Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations
FSCP	Future Saudi Cities Programme
GAM	Greater Amman Municipality
GCC	Gulf Cooperation Council
GDP	Gross domestic product
GHS 2025	Global Housing Strategy to the Year 2025
GLTN	Global Land Tool Network
GOJ	Government of Jordan
GOPP	General Organization for Physical Planning
H@C	Housing at the Centre
HAP	Habitat Agenda Partner
HCPD	UN-Habitat Country Programme Document
HDI	Human Development Index
HDR	Human Development Report
HLP	Housing, land and property
HPM	Habitat Programme Manager
HRBA	Human Rights-Based Approach
HUDC	Housing and Urban Development Corporation
IASC	Inter-Agency Standing Committee
IAU	Inter-Agency Information and Analysis Unit
ICESCR	International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights
IDP	Internally displaced person
ISDF	Informal Settlements Development Fund
JAH	Jordan Affordable Housing
KM	Knowledge management
KRG	Kurdistan Regional Government
KRI	Kurdistan Region of Iraq
LAS	League of Arb States
LDC	Lest developed country
M&E	Monitoring and evaluation
MDAs	Ministries, departments and agencies
MDG	Millennium Development Goal
MoCH	Ministry of Construction and Housing
MoCHMPW	Ministry of Construction, Housing, Municipalities and Public Works
MoF	Ministry of Finance
MOHUUC	Ministry of Housing, Utilities and Urban Communities
MoJ	Ministry of Justice
MoMA	Ministry of Municipal Affairs
MoMD	Ministry of Migrants and Displacements
MMPW	Ministry of Municipalities and Public Works
MoP	Ministry of Planning
MOPIC	Ministry of Planning and International Cooperation
MoPWH	Ministry of Public Works and Housing
MTSIP	Medium Term Strategic and Institutional Plan
NDP	National Development Plan
NRC	Norwegian Refugee Council
NUA	New Urban Agenda
NUO	National Urban Observatory
OECD/DAC	Organisation for Economic Cooperation and Development/Development Assistance Committee
PAAS	Projects Accrual and Accountability System
PAG	Project Advisory Group
PCWUU	Participatory Citywide Urban Upgrading
PPP	Public-private partnership
PSUP	Participatory Slum Upgrading Programme
RBM	Results-based management
RO	Regional Office
ROAAS	Regional Office for Africa and Arab States
ROAS	Regional Office for Arab States
RSP	Regional Strategic Plan
SADC	Southern African Development Community
SCP	Sustainable Cities Programme
SDG	Sustainable Development Goal
SHF	Social Housing Fund
SMART	Specific, Measurable, Attainable, Relevant and Timebound
STDM	Social Tenure Domain Model
TOC	Theory of change
TOR	Terms of Reference

UAE	United Arab Emirates
UN	United Nations
UN DESA	United Nations Department of Economic and Social Affairs
UN-ESCWA	United Nations Economic and Social Commission for Western Asia
UN-Habitat	United Nations Human Settlements Programme
UNCT	United Nations Country Team
UNCTAD	United Nations Conference on Trade and Development
UNDAF	United Nations Development Assistance Framework
UNDG	United Nations Development Group
UNDP	United Nations Development Programme
UNEG	United Nations Evaluation Group
UNEP	United Nations Environmental Programme
UNFPA	United Nations Population Fund
UNHCR	United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees
UNICEF	United Nations Children's Fund
UNOCHA	United Nations Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs
UNOPS	United Nations Office for Project Services
UNPDF	United Nations Partners Development Framework
USAID	United States Agency for International Development
VAA	Value added analysis
WASH	Water, sanitation and hygiene
WHO	World Health Organization
WUF	World Urban Forum

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Introduction: The urban housing context in the Arab States

The Arab States Region, with a total population of 414,491,886 of whom almost 60% live in cities and towns is one of the most urbanized regions in the world. The urban population has been growing steadily since 1990, and high urbanization rates have been driven by several factors, including natural population growth, socio-economic transformation and imbalanced economic development, which have stimulated both rural-urban migration and increased international labour migration within countries and across the region. In addition, displacement induced by political instability and conflict, as well as by adverse climatic conditions, has significantly impacted Arab cities. Internally displaced persons (IDPs), refugees and international migrants live mainly in cities, and represent a growing proportion of the urban population.

While the level of urbanization in the Arab States region is relatively high, there are wide variations across the different subregions. There are also considerable variations between sub-regions and individual countries as a result of physical geography, climatic conditions, biodiversity, agricultural systems, and political, socio-economic and cultural systems, as well as urban development policies and more recently the population movements resulting from conflict in the region. The sub-regions also have different urbanization rates and trends as do individual countries.

By 2050, over 70 % of the population in the Arab States region will be urban, presenting both new challenges as well as opportunities in sustaining inclusive, resilient, and safe cities. *The Arab Strategy for Housing and Sustainable Urban Development 203*0 identifies the following as amongst the most significant urban demographic and socioeconomic challenges:

- High rates of population growth.
- Imbalance in population density distribution.
- Increase in rural-urban immigration.
- Displacement caused by occupation, security issues, and natural and manmade disasters
- Limited women and youth contribution to the development process.
- Rural-urban imbalance in the development process.
- Increasing poverty rates in urban areas.

Addressing these challenges and achieving and sustaining inclusive, resilient, and safe cities will require policies that guide urban development and promote dialogue among the different levels of governance and residents, and integrate policy objectives to enhance social equity, particularly for the urban poor and marginalized women, youth and other vulnerable groups.

UN-Habitat, the United Nations Human Settlements Programme, is the United Nations (UN) agency mandated to address the above global challenge by promoting adequate housing for all and sustainable urbanization. These twin aims, together with its Governing Council and United Nations General Assembly resolutions and organizational policies and strategies have influenced its 'Housing Approach' to delivering on its mandate.

The present report is one of nine reports produced as part of an evaluation commissioned by UN-Habitat *"Evaluation of the impact of UN-Habitat's Housing Approach to Adequate, Affordable Housing and Poverty Reduction 2008-2019."* The evaluation thus covers the Medium Term Strategic and Institutional Plan (MTSIP) 2008-2013 and the Strategic Plan (SP) 2014-2019 periods — with a particular emphasis on the housing-related focus areas in the respective strategic plans (See Table 1).

The report covers the Arab States region, and similar reports were prepared for the Africa region and Asia and the Pacific region, as well as two in-depth country case studies covering Zambia and Mexico. These complemented a Global Report which assesses UN-Habitat's programmes at the global, regional and country level, and two methodology notes. At the end of the evaluation, a shorter Synthesis Report was prepared that brings together the key findings, lessons and recommendations of the evaluation.

Objectives of the evaluation

The specific objectives of the evaluation, as stated in the Terms of Reference (TOR), were to:

1. Determine to what extent **identified changes in adequate and affordable housing and poverty reduction** in countries can be attributed to UN-Habitat's Housing Approach, policy frameworks, programmes and capacity building.
2. Determine to what extent UN-Habitat has influenced **political commitment to adequate and affordable housing** issues at global, regional and country levels and assisted selected countries to deliver on such commitments.
3. Assess UN-Habitat's impact on vulnerable poor groups with the intent of assessing **how the Housing Approach has created better opportunities to improve the living standards** of poor people and ensure their housing rights.
4. Assess how other **cross-cutting issues** such as gender, youth, and climate change have been impacted by the UN-Habitat's Housing Approach.
5. Identify **lessons and make recommendations** on how the Housing Approach and related work could be modified to increase impact.

The central evaluation question was *What have been the main effects and impacts of UN-Habitat's Housing Approach in promoting adequate and affordable housing, and reducing urban poverty?*

The Arab States regional evaluation addressed the same questions within the Arab context.

Articulating the UN-Habitat Housing Approach

The assessment of the performance of the Africa regional programme presented in Chapter 7 of this report is based on the definition of the UN-Habitat "Housing Approach" developed by the consultants for this evaluation. The Housing Approach is summarized in Section 1 and described in more detail in the Global Report and the Synthesis Report. This framework understands the Housing Approach as an organizational strategy to provide a systematic approach to address adequate housing issues encompassing a core strategy of influencing housing policy to improve housing practice. UN-Habitat has operationalized the Housing Approach through the five fundamental normative and operational activities (Implementation Scope) listed in Table 1. Three additional dimensions are included in the table that can also be used to assess performance within a broader development framework. The eight dimensions are combined to define the "Comprehensive Housing Approach."

Table 1: The Fundamental Activities (Implementation Scope) included in the Housing Approach

Activities	Normative/operational
Advocacy	Normative
Knowledge	Normative
Policy Advice	Normative
Technical Assistance/Capacity building	Normative/Operational
Implementation	Operational
Additional elements for assessing the housing approach within a broader development framework	
6. Incorporation of the 5 elements into an integrated country housing strategy	
7. Incorporating cross-cutting themes (gender, youth, human right and climate change)	
8. Sustainability of country housing strategies and programmes	

Performance on these 5 (or 8) activities was rated to assess how successfully the Housing Approach was **implemented** at the country or regional level. In terms of a conventional logic models these activities are defined as the programme **outputs** or **products**.

The Housing Approach has a range of strategic and operational objectives relating to increasing access to adequate housing and the reduction of poverty. Only the strategic objectives were assessed in this report (see Table 2). All of these objectives are context-specific; but several objectives can be combined within a specific country housing strategy or programme.

Table 2: Strategic criteria for assessing the performance (outcomes) of a country housing programme

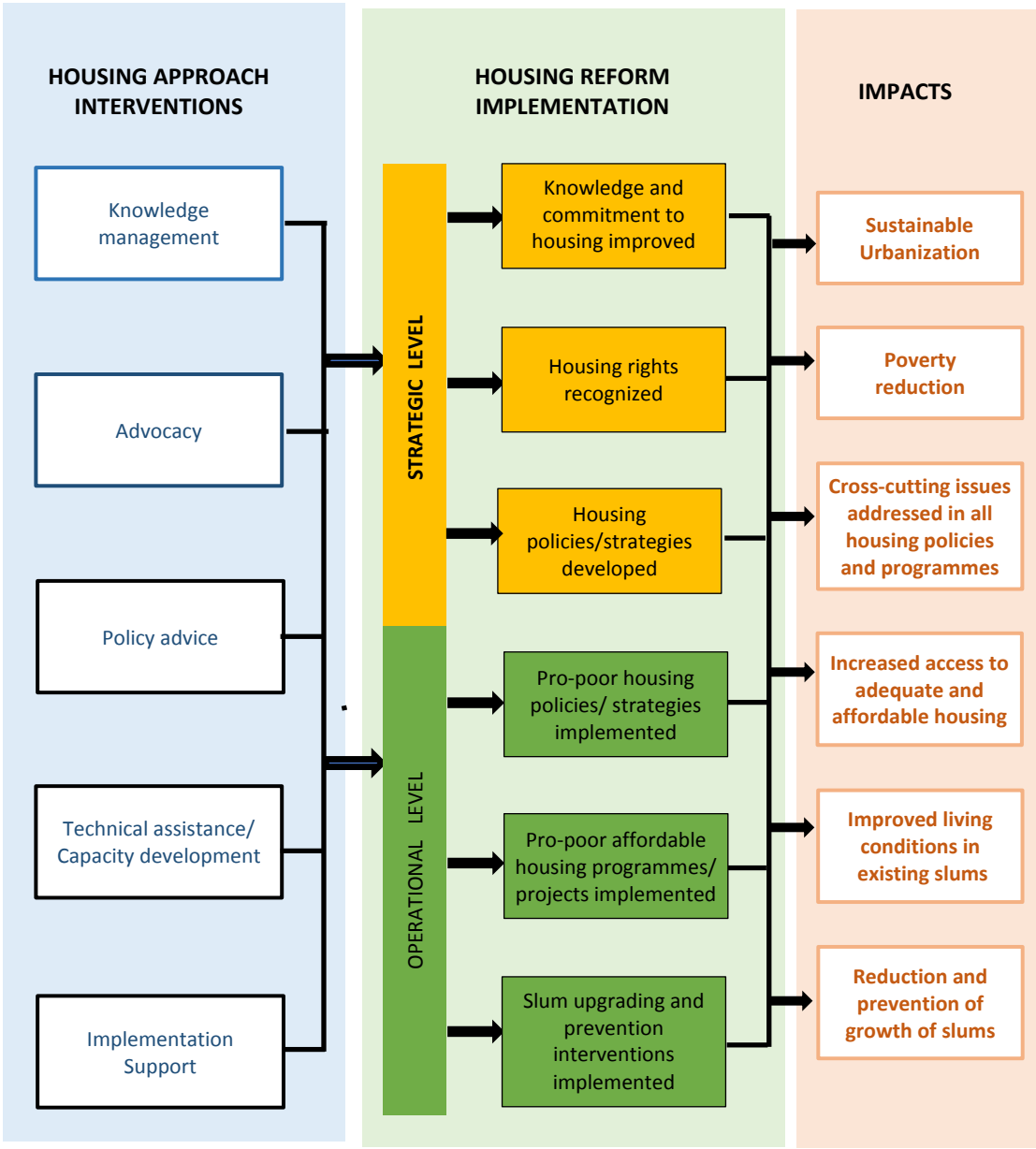
Adequate housing criteria
Increase access to adequate housing for all and particularly for low-income households
Support diversification of adequate housing solutions and government interventions
Support for advocacy groups and self-organizing housing initiatives (by NGOs and INGOs)
Provide adequate housing to crisis-affected populations (conflict, disaster, migration etc)
Improve living conditions in existing slums/informal settlements
Poverty reduction and cross-cutting issues
Increase housing affordability for all focusing on low-income households
Improve access to economic resources, affordable goods and services for low-income households
Improve social inclusion and integration at city-wide scale
Support targeted housing programmes for female-headed households, the elderly or youth.
Support climate change responsive housing strategies and programmes

Source: Developed by consultants

The primary goal of the Housing Approach is to increase access to adequate housing through policy reform, operationalizing housing strategies and implementation of housing programmes and projects. The Housing Approach is an implementation model of housing reform based on: 1) the recognition and promotion of the right to adequate housing (RTAH); 2) the revision of housing-related policy, legal and regulatory frameworks; 3) the adoption of improved housing policy and strategic frameworks, and 4) the implementation of improved housing and slum-related programmes and projects.

The consultants developed a theory of change (see Figure 1) that describes how UN-Habitat's 5 fundamental areas of intervention are combined to produce a set of strategic and operational outputs and outcomes that together are intended to influence country housing stakeholders' knowledge, commitment and capacity, in order to trigger and influence the reform and implementation of improved housing frameworks, which will contribute to 5 sets of impacts (sustainable urbanization, poverty reduction, cross-cutting issues, increased access to affordable and adequate housing, improved living conditions in existing slums, and prevention and reduction of the growth of slums).

Figure 1: Summary of the Theory of Change



The application of the Housing Approach does not always involve all the five elements — the application varies across the different levels and geographies, from global to local, from region to region, and from country to country. It may also be proactive or demand-driven, and hence have different entry points. Also, the five elements do not necessarily need to be structured sequentially and implemented in a linear manner; but rather can be implemented more flexibly or iteratively.

In the Arab States, the Housing Approach Framework was applied to all country case studies (Jordan, Iraq and Egypt), and where data was available to all UN-Habitat countries in the region, to document the extent to which the different components were incorporated and to identify variations among countries in the region in how the Approach has been applied (see Section 4).

The Evaluation Approach and Methodology

Background and methodology

The evaluation, which covered the period 2008-2019, was conducted between September 2019 and April 2020. The independent evaluation team comprised two international consultants, Simon Deprez (Impact Evaluation Expert) and Michael Majale (Housing Policy Expert), supported by a development evaluation expert, Michael Bamberger.

This was the first global evaluation commissioned to assess the impact of UN-Habitat Housing Approach and consequently a new methodology had to be developed. A 7-step methodology was used (Box 1).

The methodology incorporated some innovative elements including: complexity-responsive evaluation, an expanded portfolio analysis framework, an expanded theory of change (TOC) and value-added analysis (VAA), an adaptation of contribution analysis tailored to the more limited data availability for the present study. While the ability to fully apply some of these methodologies in the present evaluation were limited by the time and data constraints, recommendations were developed on how these methodologies could be applied in future UN-Habitat evaluations (see Section 9).

Box 1: The evaluation methodology

1. Defining the key evaluation questions
2. Articulating the Housing Approach and developing a Theory of Change
3. Definition of the programmes to be covered by the evaluation.
4. The levels of analysis:
   a. Global
   b. Regional
   c. Country
5. Using portfolio analysis to identify comparator and case study countries
6. Dimensions of the evaluation:
   a. Relevance
   b. Impact:
      - Impacts on adequate housing
      - Impacts on poverty
      - Structural indicators (process and outcomes)
   c. Sustainability
   d. Contribution to MDG 7 and MDG 11
   e. Value-added of the Housing Approach
7. Lessons learned: Adapting the original evaluation design to regional and country contexts

In order to complement available UN-Habitat sources, a questionnaire was sent to 50 Country Offices (COs) [including in the Arab Region] through the respective Regional Offices (ROs). Responses were received from only fifteen (15) COs. While this number is too small to be able to generalize to all countries, it did include almost all of the countries included in the case study countries selected from each region for more in-depth analysis.

The methodologies for estimating program impacts on adequate housing and poverty reduction, and for assessing value-added of the UN-Habitat programmes are described in Section 3.4 of the Global Report.

The case study methodology

In the Arab States, Africa and Asia and the Pacific, 3 case study countries were selected per region to permit a more in-depth understanding of UN-Habitat's country programmes and to better understand the Housing Approach and how it was adapted to each of the country political, economic, demographic and socio-cultural contexts in which the housing programmes were designed and implemented. The 3 case study countries in the Arab States were Jordan, Egypt and Iraq. It was intended that the Iraq case study would include a one week visit to Eribil, but this had to be cancelled due to the security situation.

Limitations of the Evaluation

The evaluation faced two major limitations in estimating the Housing Approach achievements: limited aggregation of quantitative data on the Housing Approach, and limited indicators to quantify impact on adequate housing. It is very difficult to estimate the scale and intensity of impact of the Housing Approach on adequate housing and poverty reduction. Most UN-Habitat monitoring data only cover structural indicators at the policy level, and do not capture the numbers of people supported at the country, regional or global level.

Comparative country case studies

The Arab States regional evaluation combined 3 country case studies which permitted a more in-depth analysis of the country context, the housing situation, the institutional framework and the UN-Habitat approach in the region. All of the cases were based on briefing meetings with regional staff in Nairobi, extensive document reviews, and key informant interviews.

The three country case studies present different urban and housing contexts [see Section 3 and 4 for more details] and thus challenges with respect to access to adequate housing and urban poverty reduction.

Iraq has only 58 km of coastline along the northern end of the Persian Gulf, giving it a very limited area of territorial sea. Iraq benefits from a fertile alluvial plain and large tracts of cultivatable land. In addition, It is well-endowed with natural resources, making it potentially one of the wealthiest nations in the region and the world. It also has amongst the largest oil reserves worldwide. And the oil sector accounts for 99% of export earnings, while the agricultural sector has continuously declined, despite the agricultural potential.

Rapid population growth is posing a major challenge to development in Iraq in general, and to urban development in particular. The population tripled to 30 million between 1970 and 2007, and the current estimated population of 40 million is growing at a rate of 2.32% per year. Iraq's successive conflicts over past decades, including the Iran-Iraq war (1980-88), have had a devastating impact on the largely state-run, oil-dominated economy. Iraq's GDP per capita in 2019 was US$ 5,955, and the 2019 *Human Development Report* classifies Iraq as a 'middle development country' with a Human Development Index (HDI) value of 0.689 (see Annex 8), ranking it 120th out of 189 countries.

Egypt is a transcontinental country spanning the northeast corner of Africa and Western Asia (Middle East) via the Sinai Peninsula. It is the most populous country in the Middle East. About 95% of the country's 100 million people live along the banks of the Nile and in the Nile Delta. These regions are among the world's most densely populated, containing an average of over 1,540 persons per km², compared to 96 per km² for the country as a whole.

In addition to the agricultural capacity of the Nile Valley and Delta, Egypt's natural resources include oil, natural gas, phosphates, and iron ore. It also produces almost all of the basic building materials used in housing construction and even has export capacities.

Following the revolutions of 2011and 2013, Egypt is addressing growing challenges in different sectors, including the housing sector. Its focus on achieving the MDGs resulted in a decline in the proportion of the population living in extreme poverty from 8.2% in 1990 to 3.4% in 2008/2009. However, the revolutions and the consequent political and economic instability led to a decline in the economic growth rate from a high of 7.2% in 2007/2008 to a low of 1.8% in 2010/2011. Economic growth thereafter faced years of slow recovery, only reaching 5.6% in 2019. Egypt's GDP per capita in 2019 was US$ 3,020, and it was ranked 116th out of 189 countries in the 2019 *Human Development Report* with a HDI of 0.700.

Jordan is located in Southwest Asia and is part of the Middle East. The relatively small, semi-arid, almost-landlocked country covers an area of 89,342 km^2 and has a population of about 10 million. The capital, Amman, is the country's most populous city with a population of about 4 million, as well as the country's political, economic and cultural centre.

Jordan has insufficient supplies of water, oil, and other natural resources. Rainfall is low and highly variable, and much of the available ground water is not renewable, and only about 10% of its land is arable. Its economic resource base centres on phosphates, potash, and their fertilizer derivatives; tourism; overseas remittances; and foreign aid. Lacking coal reserves, hydroelectric power, or commercially viable oil deposits, it is dependent on natural gas for 10% of its domestic energy needs.

Jordan has however demonstrated its ability to remain resilient, maintain internal cohesion, and reinvent itself in the face of adversity. The combination of the global financial crisis of 2009, Arab spring regional turbulence, security costs, energy crisis, disruption to its trade routes (exports to Iraq amounted to 20% of Jordan's total exports), increasing food and oil prices and a decline in remittances has put a significant strain on Jordan's economic development. Jordan's GDP growth between 2000 and 2009 averaged 6.5%, but from 2010 until 2016 average growth reduced to 2.5%. Real GDP growth was 1.9% in 2018, marginally lower than in 2017, and stood at 1.8% during the second quarter of 2019. GDP per capita in 2019 was US$ 4,330.

Jordan still faces external regional challenges, with the crises in neighbouring Syria and Iraq causing influxes of refugees, and greater health and education costs. Despite this, Jordan's HDI in 2018 was 0.723, putting it in the high human development category, and ranking it 102nd out of 189 countries

The-Habitat Housing Approach in the Arab States Region

UN-Habitat has been engaged with the Arab States region for over 30 years. However, the current UN-Habitat Regional Office for Arab States (ROAS) was established in 2011, after the former Regional Office for Africa and Arab States (ROAAS) was split into two entities.

ROAS supports countries to advance sustainable urbanization as a driver of development and peace based on the premise that well-planned inclusive urbanization can solve many of the region's challenges. ROAS provides knowledge, policy advice, technical assistance and collaborative action, including in project implementation, to support its objectives in the region, focusing on four main pillars of action: (1) Reduced poverty and spatial inequality in urban and rural communities; (2) Enhanced shared prosperity of cities and regions; (3) Strengthened climate action and improved urban environment; and (4) Effective urban crisis prevention and response. It also provides tools and support for regional mechanisms to coordinate cooperation in the fields of urban development and housing in the Arab region. This is effectively the 'Arab States region Housing Approach'.

UN-Habitat currently has a presence in 13 countries where it is providing support to national and local governments and other Habitat Agenda Partners (HAPs) through a diversified portfolio with a value of over USD 290 million, spanning all of the agency's focus areas. Programme priorities are also consistent with the *Arab Strategy for Housing and Sustainable Urban Development 2030*, which was developed with the support of UN-Habitat. Objective 1 of the Strategy is: *"Ensuring access to adequate, safe and affordable housing and basic services, and prosperous living for all"*.

As in other regions, UN-Habitat relies on partnerships to develop and implement work at the regional, national and local levels. Its main partner in the region is the League of Arab States (LAS), with which it is collaborating in the implementation of the *Arab Strategy for Housing and Sustainable Urban Development 2030* to guide urban development in the region.

UN-Habitat's strong country presence in the Arab region facilitates collaboration with national and local authorities to advance sustainable urban development and housing agendas in the region. Indeed, partnership formation and working, and resource mobilization and fundraising are key strengths of UN-Habitat on which it is heavily reliant for both its normative and operational work.



Amman, Jordan.© Shutterstock/ Leonid Andronov

Regional Strategic Plan

The *Regional Strategic Plan (RSP)* for the Arab States was intended to provide a key tool to help ensure successful implementation of the UN-Habitat *Strategic Plan 2014 – 2019* at regional, sub-regional and country levels.

The RSP was also developed in close relationship with the *Arab Strategy for Housing and Sustainable Urban Development 2030*, as is reflected in the RSP vision statement which is aligned to and anchored in its priorities. The RSP also represents the regional implementation mechanism for SDG 11: "Make cities and human settlements inclusive, safe, resilient and sustainable", as well as a guide for the implementation of the NUA in the region. The RSP has followed the guidelines with respect to the:

1. Basic principles: a) Bridging the normative-operational divide; b) Flexibility for regional ownership; c) Planning for success (the search for impact); and

2. Substantive focus: a) Regional urbanization trends: Challenges and opportunities; b) Regional strategy and priority areas; c) Strategic results and key outputs; d) Implementation mechanisms.

Regional Portfolio

UN-Habitat's key accomplishments in the region in the past two decades include the formulation of urban sector policies; advocating participatory urban and strategic planning; reconstruction of housing and basic urban services; and promoting good urban governance. Table 3 presents a synopsis of UN-Habitat's project interventions in the various countries in the region over the past 20 years, while more detailed results of the interventions by country are listed in Table 22.

Table 3: Synopsis of UN-Habitat's Interventions in the Arab region

Intervention	Country
Urban planning and housing surveys and profiles	Iraq, Somalia, Lebanon, Egypt, Kuwait, Bahrain, Saudi Arabia, Sudan
Design and delivery of housing and slum upgrading programmes including development of housing and shelter policies	Iraq, Somalia, Egypt, Bahrain, Sudan, Palestine, Morocco
Reconstruction and rehabilitation of urban infrastructure (housing, schools, markets, government buildings)	Iraq, Somalia, Lebanon, Egypt, Sudan, Palestine
Development and implementation of urban planning and management policies	Iraq, Somalia, Egypt, Libya, Lebanon, Bahrain, Sudan, Palestine, Morocco
Formulation of land management policies and legislation for implementation	Iraq, Somalia, Palestine
Design and delivery of local government capacity building and training	Somalia, Lebanon, Egypt, Dubai, Libya, Kuwait, Bahrain
Development and execution of urban governance and municipal decentralization policies	Somalia, Lebanon, Egypt, Dubai, Morocco, Libya

Source: After UN-Habitat in partnership with the Arab States

The themes with the most projects were 'Urban planning and design' and 'Risk reduction and rehabilitation', both of which had 36 projects. However, in terms of value of projects, the value of projects under the two themes of 'Urban planning and design' (USD 57.23 million) and 'Housing and slum upgrading' (USD 57.15 million) were highest.

Cross-cutting Issues

A key aim of the RSP is to mainstream UN-Habitat's four cross-cutting issues of gender equality, youth, human rights and climate change into ROAS programmes and projects using UN-Habitat's *Cross-Cutting Markers*. New programmes and projects must achieve a specified final rating for all four cross-cutting issues to be approved by the Global or Regional Project Advisory Group (PAG). Significant progress has been made in terms of the incorporation of all of these themes into UN-Habitat projects and programmes throughout the region (see Section 5.1.4)

Monitoring and Evaluation

The implementation of the RSP is to have been monitored through data collection and regular updates on the progress of the EAs and outputs at regional and country levels through meetings, reports and the use of UN-Habitat's Projects Accrual and Accounting System (PAAS), the agency's programme and project management systems, on a quarterly basis. However, the documentation available on PAAS did not provide evidence of such reporting.

In line with results-based management (RBM), the monitoring of the implementation of the RSP is meant to ensure accountability, sharing of best practices, and also inform decision making on future plans - but this is not reflected in the monitoring reports available on PAAS, which do not provide robust and credible data on the outcomes and (potential) impacts, This presented a major challenge for the evaluation. The implementation of the RSP is to be evaluated in 2020.

Impact Outlook

The Evaluation of the Regional Office for Arab States found that ROAS' good record and enhanced credibility, both regionally and nationally, increased the scope for positive impact on normative reform and in support to operational programming and action, including in countries in the midst of severe crises. The findings of the document review are consistent with this.

The evaluation of ROAS also emphasizes that UN-Habitat's strategic decision to establish a RO in the Arab region itself (in Cairo, Egypt) has fully paid off, and that ROAS constitutes a very significant added value for the Agency in promoting its key policy messages in the region. ROAS has also enhanced its political legitimacy and credibility, increased proximity to national partners and improved efficiency. Indeed, as the UN-Habitat Regional Office for Arab States: Overview 2018 affirms, ROAS has seen an exponential growth in the breadth and depth of its programming in the Arab region thanks to funding from its partners.

Comparative Country Housing Approach Case Studies: Iraq, Egypt and Jordan

Iraq

UN-Habitat has been active in Iraq since 1996. However, following the events of 2003, UN-Habitat was largely engaged in early recovery efforts, particularly those supporting IDPs through shelter and reconstruction solutions. Since then, the UN-Habitat Iraq Country Programme portfolio has expanded beyond emergency responses to include humanitarian programmes, such as providing IDPs and returnees with dignified shelter and living environments; and development programmes that provide technical and capacity building support to the national and local governments through activities such as development of the National Housing Policy and the National Urban Strategy, upgrading of informal settlements, and support to decentralization. UN-Habitat also chairs the Housing, Land and Property (HLP) Rights Sub-Cluster in Iraq under the Protection Cluster.

In the MTSIP 2008-2013, UN-Habitat's country level support was based on its work in 26 pilot Enhanced Normative and Operational Framework (ENOF) priority countries, most of which were least developed countries (LDCs), to support the efforts of national governments, local authorities and other stakeholders. Iraq was one of the priority countries

Egypt

UN-Habitat has been working in Egypt since 2005 to support sustainable urbanization that is able to drive development and improve living conditions for all. It has also provided support to the Egyptian government on improved access to land and adequate and affordable housing in collaboration with its development partners, in particular local urban planning units in pilot governorates, and other key housing stakeholders. The Egypt CO has worked extensively to support the development and testing of various land management tools and practices, and planned city extensions in areas where multiple vulnerable groups are unable to capture the increased value of urbanization.

More recently, capitalizing on ROAS being hosted by MOHUUC in Cairo, the Egypt CO has been able to support Egypt play a leadership role among the Arab countries on a number of interventions and events. This is very much in line with Egypt's foreign policy and is well acknowledged by all counterparts. Prime examples include the support provided to MOHUUC and ISDF to undertake an analytical study on informal settlements in the region, and support to hosting of a number of regional events on strategic planning, urban policies, and housing.

As co-chair the Development Partners Group on Urban Development (DPGUD) and playing a very active role in the United Nations Country Team (UNCT), and through regularly facilitating and leading platforms for dialogue on urban development, the Egypt CO is now well positioned as the lead technical agency and point of reference on urban development and housing in the country. This has led to effective integration of urban development in the United Nations Partners Development Framework (UNPDF) as well as acknowledgement of urban development as a key sector and major factor that can accelerate progress towards sustainable development in the country in line with Egypt Vision 2030 and SDG 11.

Consistent with the UN-Habitat Housing Approach, the Egypt country programme has and continues to effectively support the government in urban related policy formulation and provide legislative and institutional support as well as capacity development of national stakeholders. The programme has also been able to advance global urban tools, through extensive dialogue and strong partnerships created with relevant stakeholders, and adapt and implement them to meet local needs to maximize the impact on urban development and the quality of lives of the citizens. These measures are supported by comprehensive and participatory advocacy and communication tools.

Jordan

UN-Habitat first became operational in Jordan in 2005 when it signed a host agreement with the Government of Jordan (GOJ) and established a country office in Amman to promote activities in the area of human settlements and provide technical support to the Government to develop sustainable cities and towns. In July 2013, the UN-Habitat Jordan office began its transition into a programme-oriented office aiming to support the Government to address the impact of the Syrian Crisis in urban areas at the national and local level.

Since the establishment of the Jordan CO, UN-Habitat has supported GOJ to better manage rapid urbanization in line with *Jordan 2025*, the long-term national vision and strategy document, and medium-term national development plans, and in response to the challenges arising from hosting Syrian refugees since 2011. The country programme is thus closely aligned with the national development priorities and focuses on the following action areas: Urban policy and legislation; land and governance; urban planning and design; urban economy and municipal finance; urban basic services; urban research and capacity development; housing and slum upgrading; and risk reduction and rehabilitation. UN-Habitat's technical support has included strengthening capacity of governmental institutions on data collection and analysis, establishing local urban monitoring mechanisms; supporting urban indicators data collection and dissemination of urban data; and providing training on the City Prosperity Index (CPI).

UN-Habitat has also been working in Jordan towards the progressive realization for all persons of the right to adequate housing, by establishing comprehensive housing policies, activating PPPs and enabling low income groups to access adequate housing, primarily through the Jordan Affordable Housing (JAH) Programme. UN-Habitat is implementing the JAH Programme in partnership with the GOJ with the aim of delivering a scaled national affordable housing programme. UN-Habitat has also been working with GOJ to enhance emergency preparedness and crisis management capacities at the national and sub-national levels. To enable it to support GOJ more effectively, UN-Habitat has also been working to strengthen the capacities of the Jordan CO in Amman through specific projects.

Summary comparative analysis

UN-Habitat has been working in the three Arab States region case study countries for varying periods of time — in Iraq since 1996; and in Egypt and Jordan since 2005. The COs differ substantially in terms of staff size and composition; budget size and composition; programme/project portfolio size and composition; and M&E and reporting capacity. This is largely because of the contextual differences between the three countries, as explained above. However, in all three countries, a large proportion of the projects in the respective country portfolios aim to promote the full and progressive realization of the right to adequate housing and to improve the housing conditions of poor and vulnerable households through the Housing Approach.

The contextual differences between the three countries have significantly influenced the evolution of the country programmes and the Housing Approach in the respective countries in terms of focus and the normative and operational elements that are prioritized. This is reflected in the respective tables on 'Housing related programmes/projects – Housing Approach elements and timeframe' — i.e., Table 12, Table 15 and Table 18. The tables indicate which normative and operational elements of the Housing Approach projects that have or are being implemented in the respective countries include, and thus the degree to which they are consistent with the Housing Approach.

Key Findings

This section summarizes the key findings of the Arab States regional evaluation. The findings are presented in more detail in Section 7.

Consistency of the regional and country strategies and programmes with the housing approach.

Using a 5 point scale (1=no relevance and 5 = highly relevant) Table 4 reports on the relevance of the Arab States regional housing programme in terms of 10 elements. Overall the programme received ratings of 4 (high relevance) or 5 (very high relevance) on all 10 dimensions.

The 6 dimensions rated as most relevant/consistent with the UN-Habitat Housing Approach and as contributing the greatest value added are: consistency of country programmes with the Housing Approach, technical assistance and capacity building, treatment of cross-cutting issues, consistency with policies of country partners, relevance of the global frameworks to the region and the overall value-added of the country programme and housing approach.

Table 4: Overall Rating of the Regional and Country Strategies and Programmes – Consistency/Relevance/Value Added

Elements of the Housing Approach / Key issues	Rating				
	1	2	3	4	5
Consistency off Regional Programme With The Housing Approach Framework					✓
Knowledge Management				✓	
Advocacy				✓	
Policy Advice				✓	
Technical assistance/Capacity building					✓
Implementation				✓	
Cross-cutting issues					✓
Consistency with policies of country partners					✓
Relevance of global frameworks					✓
Value-added of the Country Programme/Housing Approach					✓

Rating code: 1 = None relevance; 2 = Low; 3 = Moderately; 4 = High; 5 = Very High

Relevance of the Regional and Country Programmes and Housing Approach to national and local priorities

The housing related global frameworks —the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), in particular SDG Target 11.1; New Urban Agenda (NUA); Housing at the Centre (H@C) approach; and Global Housing Strategy to the Year 2025 (GHS 2025) — are relevant to regional and country contexts at multiple levels, and inform the regional and country Housing Approach in several ways.

UN-Habitat is the custodian of SDG 11: *Make cities and human settlements inclusive, safe, resilient and sustainable;* and also, very importantly, of SDG 11 Target 1: *"by 2030, ensure access for all to adequate, safe and affordable housing and basic services and upgrade slums".*

In addition, as the UN agency mandated to promote adequate housing for all and sustainable urbanization, UN-Habitat has a key role to play in the implementation, follow-up to and review of the NUA, which puts housing at the centre of sustainable urban development, in collaboration with other UN entities.

At the regional level, ROAS has successfully established a high-level constituency of regional partners that have similar priorities to those addressed by the Housing Approach. A prime example is the Arab Ministerial Forum for Housing and Urban Development (AMFHUD) launched in 2015, which comprises Ministers from LAS member states with a housing and urban development mandate.

Estimating the impact of the Housing Approach

Table 5: Estimated Impact of the Reginal and Country Housing Approach in the Arab States region

Element of the Housing Approach	1	2	3	4	5
Knowledge Management					✓
Advocacy				✓	
Policy Advice				✓	
Technical assistance Capacity building				✓	
Implementation			✓		

Table 6 presents the summary impact ratings of the Arab States regional and country programme on each of the 5 elements of the housing approach (knowledge management, advocacy, policy advice, technical assistance and capacity building and implementation) . All of the 5 elements generally received positive ratings in all 3 case study countries. Knowledge management had the highest rating but all other four ratings were good. Policy advice was considered particularly valuable with respect to: strengthening the focus of housing policies on the right to adequate housing, slum upgrading and prevention, post-crisis recovery and reconstruction and disaster risk reduction.

Table 22 (Section 7.3) lists examples of significant achievements in 13 countries in the region.

Assessing the coverage of strategic objectives

Table 6 provides a summary assessment of how well UN-Habitat's strategic guidelines are addressed in the current Arab States regional programme. There are 8 indicators of adequate housing and 8 indictors of poverty reduction and cross-cutting issues.

Each indicator was assessed in 5 different dimensions (level of activity, relevance, UN-Habitat's comparative advantage, the value-added on UN-Habitat' contribution and impact). Table 6 presents average scores over the 5 dimensions (see Table 24 in Section 7.7.2 for the scores on each dimension). A score of 5 = very high level of attention to an indicator while 1= very little or no attention. The table shows that on average the level of attention to adequate housing indicators (3.4) was twice as high as the level of attention to poverty reduction and cross-cutting issues.

It is important to emphasize that the scores are based on the qualitative judgments of the evaluation team, so while they provide an assessment of overall difference in attention to housing and poverty/cross-cutting themes), they should not be considered as a precise quantitative measure.

Table 6: How actively are UN-Habitat strategic guidelines addressed in the current Asia regional programmes?

Strategic Objectives	Average rating on 5 dimensions
Adequate housing	
Increase access to adequate housing to all	4.4
Increase access to adequate housing to low-income households	4.8
Support diversification of adequate housing solutions	4.2
Support diversification of government interventions in providing adequate housing	3.0
Support advocacy groups	3.0
Support self-organizing housing initiatives (by NGO or INGO))	3.2
Provide adequate housing to crisis affected population (conflict, disaster, migration, ...)	3.4
Improve living conditions in existing slums/informal settlements	4.4
Average rating for adequate housing dimensions	3.4
Poverty reduction and cross cutting issues	
Increase housing affordability for low-income households	2.4
Increase housing affordability for all	1.8
Improve access to economic resources, affordable goods and services for low-income households	2.2
Improve social inclusion and integration at city-wide scale	1.8
Support gender or age sensitive housing strategies or programs	1.6
Improve access to adequate housing for female headed households	1.4
Improve access to adequate housing for youth	1.4
Support climate change sensitive housing strategies or programs	1.2
Average rating for poverty reduction and cross-cutting issues	1.7

Code: 1= Very low or none; 2 = Low; 3 = Medium; 4 = high; 5 = very high
5 Dimensions on which performance assessed: Level of activity; relevance; comparative advantage; Value-added; Impact

Lessons learned

The following are the key lessons learned from the Arab States regional case study

- The UN-Habitat Housing Approach can create significant opportunities for poor and vulnerable groups — in particular IDPs, refugees and returnees —to improve their living standards and ensure their housing rights through implementation of operational implementation projects that ultimately influence normative policy frameworks.
- The right to adequate housing in post-conflict situations can be enhanced through the rehabilitation of damaged houses for occupation by returnees and issuance of occupancy certificates as a first step to full ownership titles.
- Engagement of high level and other key relevant housing stakeholders provides valuable insights into a variety of housing issues, and enhances the process for formulation of national housing policies and national and citywide slum upgrading strategies. It also removes any barriers between stakeholders and strengthens ownership of the policies and strategies developed, resulting in more efficient and effective implementation of the same.
- The STDM can be used to incrementally improve tenure of IDPs, refugees and returnees and strengthen their HLP rights.
- Post conflict housing rehabilitation and reconstruction can provide opportunities to create sustainable livelihoods and poverty reduction through capacity building and employment opportunities.
- DRR interventions can have a significant poverty impact by reducing communities' vulnerability to damage and loss of homes and property.
- Although at the international, regional and national levels there are some legal instruments that support and protect women's HLP rights, in many Arab States countries, customary law and tradition pose serious

impediments to women's enjoyment of their rights. Gender-sensitive durable housing solutions can significantly improve women's HLP rights.

- Pilot projects cannot only have an immediate impact in the communities in which they are implemented but are also a powerful advocacy tool.

Recommendations

The following recommendations concerning actions to be taken at the policy and strategic, planning and management, regional and country programme levels and to strengthen monitoring and evaluation systems, are discussed in Section 9 of this report. An expand set of recommendations covering all regions and the global level are also discussed in the Global Report.

General considerations

1. Capitalize on the Status and reputation of UN-Habitat.

Regional Strategic Plan

2. Develop and articulate a comprehensive regional strategy.
3. Promote and strengthen the triple nexus of humanitarian, development and peacebuilding (HDP) efforts in conflict-affected countries.
4. Encourage sharing of relevant lessons learned from shelter cluster countries with nonshelter cluster countries in the Arab States region as well as other regions with shelter clusters.

Habitat Country Programme Document

5. Prepare and apply a Habitat Country Programme Document (HCPD).

Knowledge Management

6. Continue to support production of normative knowledge products. Disseminate national and local knowledge products more widely.
7. Disseminate national and local knowledge products more widely.
8. Produce online and print summaries of key knowledge products.

Advocacy

9. Strengthen evidence-based advocacy at all levels and with different stakeholders.
10. Promote a HRBA through targeted advocacy.

Policy Advice

11. Strengthen evidence-based policy advice.
12. Draw on international experience to strengthen policy advice.

Technical assistance and Capacity Development

13. Continue to exploit UN-Habitat's recognized expertise and achievements.
14. Follow up on technical assistance and capacity building support.
15. Adopt a cascade capacity building approach.

Implementation support

16. Strengthen and expand operational implementation support at the local level.
17. Ensure full documentation of implementation experiences.

Cross, cutting issues and poverty reduction

18. Ensure relevance and consistency of cross-cutting issues with national and local priorities and needs.
19. Strengthen poverty reduction impact monitoring.

Sustainability

20. Ensure a sustainability strategy and plan for all programmes and projects.

Value added

21. Strengthen UN-Habitat's value added.
22. Promote value added of UN-Habitat's programmes and projects by involving strategic partners and multiple stakeholders.

Monitoring and Evaluation (M&E) Systems

23. Ensure capacity of the COs to implement Results-Based Management (RBM).
24. Ensure resources to monitor all activities.
25. Enforce compliance to PAAS reporting.

1. INTRODUCTION

The world is urbanizing rapidly, and as it does so the global housing challenge is growing equally. Some 50% of the world's population is now urban and this figure is projected to increase to 60% by 2030. Also occurring in parallel is the urbanization of poverty, which is evidenced by the proliferation and expansion of slums in which in some developing countries 80% of the urban population lives. Slums are characterized by inadequate housing which does not meet one or more of the seven criteria of adequate housing as defined by the UN Office of the High Commissioner for Human Rights (OHCHR) and UN-Habitat,[1] namely: 1) legal security of tenure; 2) availability of services; 3) affordability; 4) habitability; 5) accessibility; 6) location; and 7) cultural adequacy. These criteria are explained in Annex 1.

UN-Habitat, the United Nations Human Settlements Programme, is the United Nations (UN) agency mandated to address the above global challenge by promoting adequate housing for all and sustainable urbanization. These twin aims, together with its Governing Council and United Nations General Assembly resolutions and organizational policies and strategies have influenced its 'Housing Approach' to delivering on its mandate. The purpose of this evaluation is thus to assess the impact of UN-Habitat's Housing Approach on adequate and affordable housing, as well urban poverty reduction, between 2008 and 2019 in the regions where it has been implemented, of which the Africa region is one. The evaluation covers the Medium Term Strategic and Institutional Plan (MTSIP) 2008-2013 and the Strategic Plan (SP) 2014-2019 periods — with a particular emphasis on the housing-related Focus Areas (FAs) in the respective strategic plans which are listed in Annex 2.

The specific objectives of the evaluation are to:

1. Determine to what extent **identified changes in adequate and affordable housing and poverty reduction** in countries can be attributed to UN-Habitat's Housing Approach, policy frameworks, programmes and capacity building.
2. Determine to what extent UN-Habitat has influenced **political commitment to adequate and affordable housing** issues at global, regional and country levels and assisted selected countries to deliver on such commitments.
3. Assess UN-Habitat's impact on vulnerable poor groups with the intent of assessing **how the Housing Approach has created better opportunities to improve the living standards** of poor people and ensure their housing rights.
4. Assess how other **cross-cutting issues** such as gender, youth, and climate change have been impacted by the UN-Habitat's Housing Approach.
5. Identify **lessons and make recommendations** on how the Housing Approach and related work could be modified to increase impact.

The evaluation addresses 11 questions, which are included in Annex 3, with a predominant analytical focus on the first: *What have been the main effects and impacts of UN-Habitat's Housing Approach in promoting adequate and affordable housing, and reducing urban poverty?*

There is, however, no precise, consistent and shared definition of the 'Housing Approach' used by UN-Habitat, nor has any explicit Housing Approach framework or strategic guidance been developed and documented by UN-Habitat. The Evaluation Team consequently developed a conceptual framework that understands the Housing Approach as an organizational strategy to provide a systematic approach to address the challenge of adequate housing for all in a rapidly urbanizing world by influencing housing policy to improve housing practice. This conceptualization is informed by the Housing Approach in the MTSIP, SP and the New Urban Agenda (NUA),[2] as explained in the Terms of Reference (ToR), as well as a comprehensive review and observation of UN-Habitat's normative and operational activities, and key informant interviews (KIIs) with staff at UN-Habitat headquarters in Nairobi, and in the Regional Offices (ROs) and Country Offices (COs).

1 OHCHR and UN-Habitat (2009) The Right to Adequate Housing.

2 See Annex 4 for a summary of the Housing Approach in the NUA.

Table 7: Fundamental Elements of the Housing Approach

Element	Activity
1. Advocacy	Normative
2. Knowledge	Normative
3. Policy Advice	Normative
4. Technical Assistance/Capacity building	Normative/Operational
5. Implementation	Operational
Additional elements for assessing the housing approach within a broader development framework	
6. Integration of the 5 elements into an integrated country housing strategy	
7. Incorporation of cross-cutting themes: gender equality, human rights, youth and climate change	
8. Sustainability of country housing programmes	

UN-Habitat has operationalized the Housing Approach through the five fundamental normative and operational elements or components listed in Table 7. Application of the Housing Approach does not always involve all the five elements — it varies across the different levels, from global to local, from region to region, and from country to country. It may also be proactive or demand-driven, and hence have different entry points. Furthermore, the five elements need not necessarily be structured into sub-sequential phases and implemented in a linear manner; but rather can be implemented more flexibly of iteratively. The Housing Approach is explained in more detail in the Synthesis Report.[3]

The five fundamental elements together with the three additional elements in Table 7 — referred to as the 'Comprehensive Housing Approach in the Global Report — informed the articulation of the evaluation conceptual framework which in turn informed the development of the comprehensive Theory of Change (TOC), which is presented in Annex 5 as well as the evaluation design and methodological approach. A simplified version of the TOC is presented in Figure 2.

The purpose of the regional evaluation therefore was to assess the changes or impacts of UN-Habitat's Housing Approach on adequate and affordable housing, and urban poverty reduction in different regional and country contexts.

The analysis of the extent to which identified changes in adequate and affordable housing and poverty reduction can be attributed to UN-Habitat's Housing Approach normative and operational interventions in the four main regions — Africa, Arab States, Asia and the Pacific, and Latin America and the Caribbean — has been undertaken at three levels, as shown in Table 8.

3 The evaluation produced a total of eight reports: a global report; four regional reports (Africa, Arab States, Asia and the Pacific, Latin America and the Caribbean); two country case study reports (Mexico, Zambia); and a synthesis report.



Busy traffic on the streets in the center of Amman, Jordan. © Shutterstock/Cristi Croitoru

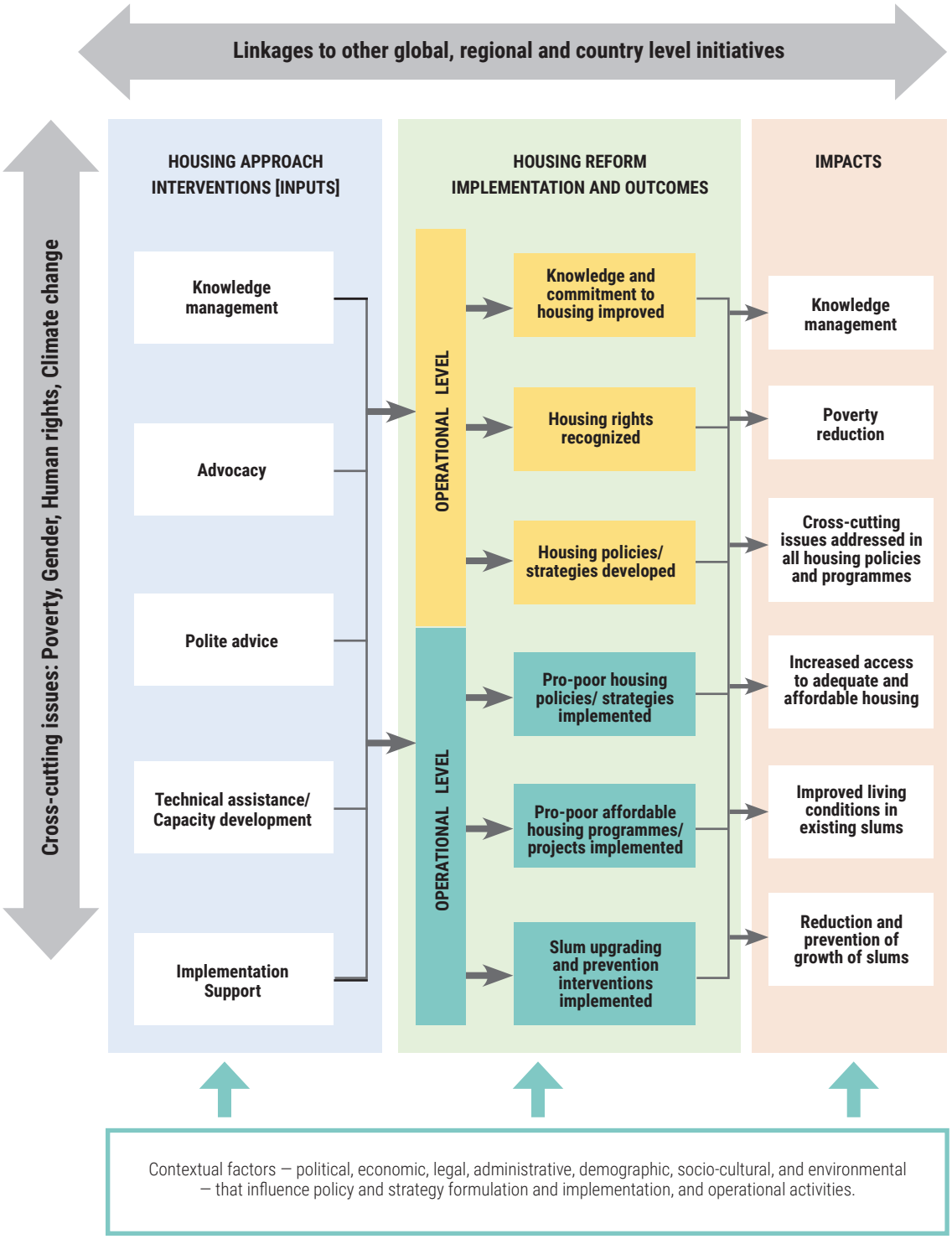
Table 8: Levels of analysis of the impact of the Housing Approach

Level of Analysis	Impact analysis procedure
Regional portfolio analysis	Analysis of available data for the region, complemented by a survey sent to regional offices (ROs) and country offices (COs).
Regional comparative country analysis	Comparative country analysis for three countries in each region based on analysis of country data and key informant interviews (KIIs) but not including country visits.
Country case-studies	Country case study based on a country visit.

The regional and country analyses that this report presents (levels 2 and 3 respectively in Table 8) were designed to help understand how the Housing Approach is applied within different regional and country contexts, and to assess how effectively a global housing approach can be implemented in widely different regional and country contexts. The 12 comparative country case studies drawn from the four main regions in which UN-Habitat is working,[4] two of which involved country visits — to Mexico in the Latin America and the Caribbean region and Zambia in the Africa region — assess the implication of the variation in contexts on country programmes, implementation of the Housing Approach, and the main effects and impacts of the Housing Approach in increasing access to adequate and affordable housing, and reducing urban poverty at regional and country level.

4 See Table 3.

Figure 2: Housing Approach Theory of Change



The logic of the Housing Approach is based on the implementation of five complementary Housing Approach interventions and their respective sets of activities, which should take into consideration the four cross cutting issues. Each of these activities is intended to deliver outputs and outcomes able to influence country housing stakeholders' knowledge, commitment and capacity, in order to trigger and influence the reform and implementation of improved housing frameworks. The implementation model of housing reform comprises the following, not necessarily sequential, activities: 1) knowledge creation: 2) recognition and promotion of housing rights; 3) revision of housing frameworks; 4) adoption of improved housing frameworks, and 5) implementation of pro-poor housing and slum upgrading and prevention programmes. All of the above are influenced by contextual factors (political, economic, legal, administrative, demographic, socio-cultural, and environmental) and should be linked to other global, regional and country level initiatives.



Many small shops and stalls that adorn the bustling streets Iraq, Baghdad. © Shutterstock/Focus and Blur

2. ARAB STATES REGION EVALUATION METHODOLOGY

The purpose of the regional reports and country case studies

The regional and country case studies are aimed to provide a better understanding of how the Housing Approach is implemented within different regional and country contexts, and to assess how effectively a global approach can be adapted to and implemented according to varying contexts. A related purpose is to help determine and clarify what exactly constitutes the UN-Habitat 'Housing Approach'. This is important for several reasons, including: (a) the Housing Approach has not been clearly defined, articulated and documented by UN-Habitat; (b) it has evolved historically in accordance with global development frameworks; and (c) it has to be adapted to different regional and country contexts if it is to address adequate and affordable housing needs and achieve sustainable transformational changes at regional, national and local levels.

The three country case studies for each region were selected from among those countries where the country programmes were considered representative of the Housing Approach at regional level, the full list of which is presented in Annex 6.[5] In most cases these where countries in which UN-Habitat has had a long-term presence; and for which sufficient information on programmes and achievements was available. Other factors also influenced the selection of the countries, such as the ability of the CO to support data collection and to facilitate contacts with country key informants. This selection was then agreed with UN-Habitat headquarters. It is important to emphasize that this was a purposive sample where the countries selected had more comprehensive country programmes. This selection strategy was used as the purpose was to assess the extent to which identified changes in adequate and affordable housing and poverty reduction, in identified countries, can be attributed to UN-Habitat's Housing Approach, policy frameworks, programmes and capacity building. Table 9 shows the final selection of the country case studies.

Table 9: Countries selected for case studies

Region	In-depth Case Study	Comparative Case Studies
Africa	Zambia (country visit)	Mozambique, Somalia
Arab States	Iraq (no country visit)	Egypt, Jordan
Asia and the Pacific	Myanmar (no country visit)	Mongolia, Sri Lanka
Latin America and the Caribbean	Mexico (country visit)	Colombia, Haiti

5 This process is described in detail in the Main Report.

The regional and country case study evaluation design framework

The main steps in the design and conduct of the Arab States region evaluation are summarized in Table 10. While the overall evaluation design framework for the four regions was the same, there are some differences in how the steps and analysis of the regional context and programme and the main and comparative country case studies were implemented.

There is an important significant difference between the present evaluation design and methodology and other conventional evaluation approaches. Most evaluations assess actual programme performance against the defined programme goals and objectives. However, in the three country case studies presented in this report— Iraq, Egypt and Jordan — the COs did not have a comprehensive and well-articulated country strategy and programme with clearly defined objectives, performance indicators and monitoring and evaluation (M&E) framework. Consequently, the three case studies used a more inductive approach in which a country-specific Housing Approach had to be constructed on the basis of the available country programme documents, project documents and project interventions implemented in each country.



People walking along street at downtown of Alexandria, Egypt. © Shutterstock/arapix

Table 10: Evaluation design and methodology for the Africa Region Comparative Case Studies

Step 1: Key questions to be addressed in the evaluation

The key questions to be addressed (see Annex 3) were adapted from the TOR and the inception report.

Step 2: Defining the housing approach framework

The three case study country offices (COs) — Iraq, Egypt and Jordan — do not have a clearly defined country-specific housing approach against which to assess performance and impact.

The comparative case study evaluation therefore used the overall UN-Habitat Housing Approach framework as a reference against which to compare actual country programme normative and operational activities.

Step 3: Evaluation design and methodology

The evaluation design included the following elements:

1. A comprehensive review of available programme/project documents and other relevant documentation and material made available by UN-Habitat; government reports; other relevant reports; and online resources.
2. A summary comparative review of the urban and housing context in the region and in the case study countries.
3. A brief historical analysis of how the regional and three country programmes have evolved over time and how they have responded to changes in government policy and the evolving country context.
4. Construction of a country-specific theory of change (TOC) for the Arab States region in-depth country case study, Iraq, outlining the causal logic from interventions through to impact.
5. Development of a matrix, based on the housing approach framework and the TOC to identify the main areas covered by the country programme and Housing Approach normative and operational activities, and to compare these with the overall Housing Approach framework.
6. Application of the Value-Added Analysis (VAA) methodology to estimate the value added of UN-Habitat's Housing Approach to the implementation of regional and national development frameworks; and national and local government, and non-government actors housing policies, strategies, programmes and projects.[6]
7. Assessment of the impact of the Housing Approach normative and operational interventions on access to adequate, affordable housing and poverty reduction in the three countries and wider Africa region.

Step 4: Data collection

Mixed-methods data collection approach:

1. Identification and compilation of relevant data and information from the comprehensive review of available programme/project documentation on UN-Habitat's Projects Accrual and Accountability System (PAAS) and other relevant secondary data sources.
2. A questionnaire survey sent to the COs, through the ROs, requesting detailed information on the country programme and their rating of the Housing Approach and its constituent elements.
3. Remote key informant interviews (KIIs) with UN-Habitat regional and CO staff and other regional and country stakeholders.

Step 5: Data analysis and report preparation

Data analysis used the 'Housing related programmes/projects– Housing Approach elements' matrix, the overall and country specific TOC, and the VAA framework to compare actual programme/project activities, outputs, outcomes and impacts with the Housing Approach framework. However, unlike a conventional evaluation which assesses how well a programme/project has performed against defined goals and objectives, the present evaluation assesses what results have been achieved through the COs normative and operational activities.

6 VAA is a simplified form of Contribution Analysis (CA) which is used because the necessary data was not available to conduct a complete CA. It addresses similar questions to CA but is adapted to the limitations imposed by the more limited data availability.



Shops at the Shorja market in Baghdad. © Shutterstock/Rasool Ali

A major limitation to the assessment of the impact of the Housing Approach at the country level was the low response rate to the questionnaire survey. The questionnaire was sent to 51 purposively selected COs through the respective ROs, but only 15 completed questionnaires (in some cases only partially completed) were returned. However, as a purposive sampling method was used, and the results are not being used to generalize about all CO, some of the results of the questionnaire are presented and discussed in this report. Of the 15 countries that responded to the questionnaire, five (5) are in the Arab region, namely: Egypt, Iraq, Lebanon, Palestine and Saudi Arabia. The summary of the responses are presented in Annex 16.



Amman, Jordan. © Shutterstock/ leshiy985

PART 1 – REGIONAL AND COMPARATIVE COUNTRY CASE STUDIES: REGIONAL AND COUNTRY URBAN AND HOUSING CONTEXTS

3. URBAN AND HOUSING SITUATION IN THE REGION

Regional Urbanization Trends

Table 11: Arab States Urban Facts

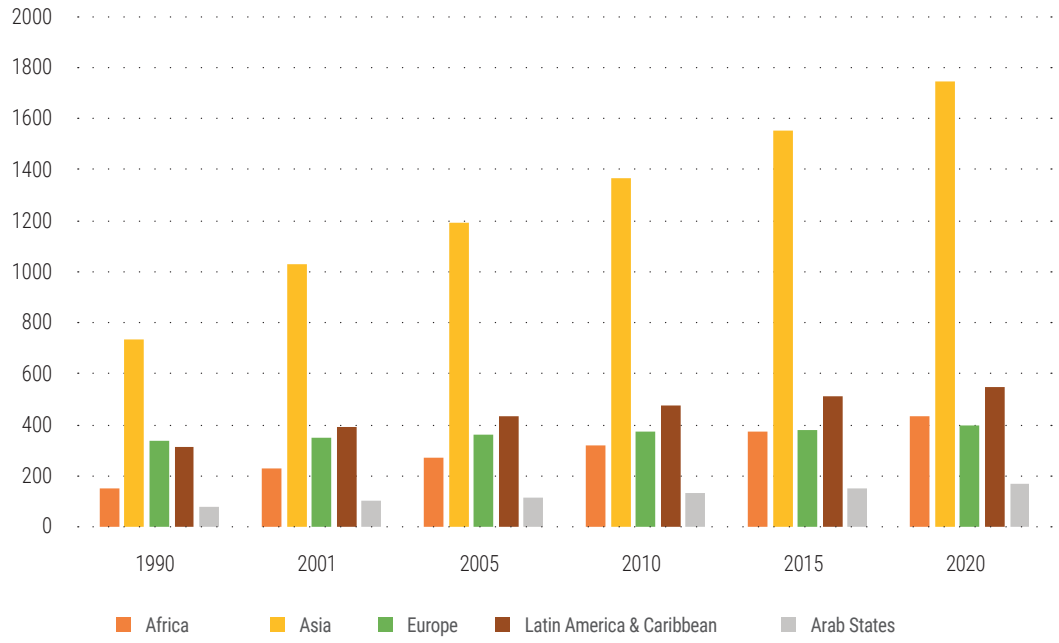
Overall Population	414,491,886
Overall Population Growth Rate	1.98%
Net Migration	-544,426
Urban Population	58.52%
Slum Population	32.47
Youth Population below 30 years	60.0%
World refugees	58.0%
Unemployment Rate	11.2%

Source: UN-Habitat Regional Office for Arab States: Overview 2018

The Arab States Region, with a total population of 414,491,886 of whom almost 60% live in urban areas as shown in Table 11, is one of the most urbanized regions in the world. The urban population has been growing steadily since 1990 as shown in Figure 3. High urbanization rates in the Arab region have been driven by several factors, including natural population growth, socio-economic transformation and imbalanced economic development, which have stimulated both rural-urban migration and increased international labour migration within countries and across the region. In addition, displacement induced by political instability and conflict, as well as by adverse climatic conditions, has significantly impacted Arab cities. Internally displaced persons (IDPs), refugees and international migrants live mainly in cities, and represent a growing proportion of the urban population.[7]

7 UN-Habitat (2015) Arab Regional Strategic Plan.

Figure 3: Urban population per region (in millions)



Source: UN-Habitat, World Bank

While the level of urbanization in the Arab States region is relatively high, there are wide variations across the different subregions defined in Figure 4. There are also considerable variations between subregions and individual countries as a result of physical geography, climatic conditions, biodiversity, agricultural systems, and political, socio-economic and cultural systems, as well as urban development policies and, more recently, the population movements resulting from conflict in the region.[8]

The sub-regions also have different urbanization rates and trends (Annex 7) as do individual countries. The Mashreq countries are moderately to highly urbanized, ranging from 43% (Egypt) to 87% (Lebanon). Urban and total growth rates have been relatively low (1 to 3%) and will continue to decline.

The Maghreb countries are highly urbanized with all countries in the region, except for Mauritania, more than 50% urbanized by 2010. Recent urban growth rates have been relatively low (1-3%) and are projected to continue declining, although the need to accommodate urban expansion will remain.

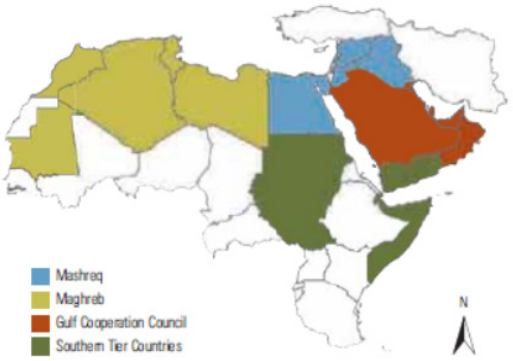
The Gulf Cooperation Council (GCC) countries have a total population of over 39 million, a majority of whom (67%) live in Saudi Arabia. With 80% of the population living in urban areas, the GCC sub-region is one of the most urbanized regions in the world.

The Southern Tier countries are home to some 80 million people, 29 million of whom live in urban centres. With the exception of Djibouti, which is 76% urbanized, most countries have low to moderate levels of urbanization (30-40%); but are urbanizing rapidly as a result of conflict, severe droughts, environmental degradation, and rural poverty.[9]

8 United Nations Conference on Housing and Sustainable Urban Development (2017) Habitat III Regional Report Arab Region: Towards Inclusive, Safe, Resilient and Sustainable Arab Cities

9 UN-Habitat (2012) The State of Arab Cities 2012: Challenges of Urban Transition.

Figure 4: Arab Sub-Regions and Country Classifications



Mashreq	Maghreb	Gulf Cooperation Council	Southern Tier Countries
Egypt	Algeria	Bahrain	The Comoros
Iraq	Libya	Kuwait	Djibouti
Jordan	Morocco	Oman	Somalia
Lebanon	Tunisia	Qatar	Sudan
Palestine	Mauritania	Saudi Arabia	Yemen
Syrian Arab Republic		United Arab Emirates	

Source: State of Arab Cities 2012

By 2050, over 70 % of the population in the Arab States region will be urban, presenting both new challenges as well as opportunities in sustaining inclusive, resilient, and safe cities. The Arab Strategy for Housing and Sustainable Urban Development 2030[10] identifies the following as amongst the most significant urban demographic and socioeconomic challenges:

- High rates of population growth.
- Imbalance in population density distribution.
- Increase in rural-urban immigration.
- Displacement caused by occupation, security issues, and natural and manmade disasters
- Limited women and youth contribution to the development process.
- Rural-urban imbalance in the development process.
- Increasing poverty rates in urban areas.

Addressing these challenges and achieving and sustaining inclusive, resilient, and safe cities will require policies that guide urban development and promote dialogue among the different levels of governance and residents, and integrate policy objectives to enhance social equity, particularly for the urban poor and marginalized women, youth and other vulnerable groups.[11]

Regional housing trends

The Arab Charter on Human Rights,[12] under Article 38, affirms that: *"Every person has the right to an adequate standard of living for himself and his family, which ensures their well-being and a decent life, including food, clothing, housing, services and the right to a healthy environment."* The Charter thus obligates countries in the Arab States region to take measures to guarantee these rights.

Some countries have made notable progress towards fulfilling the above rights by increasing the supply of affordable housing (e.g. Egypt, Morocco, Palestine) and implementing slum upgrading programmes (e.g. Algeria, Tunisia) and resettlement and reconstruction projects (e.g. Iraq). However, many have seen a decreased supply of and access to affordable formal housing for low and middle income groups for, among others, the following reasons: (i) limited capacity of public-private partnerships (PPPs) to provide adequate housing; (ii) rising housing prices owing to the imbalance between supply and growing demand; (iii) escalating speculation; (iv) lengthy and exorbitant property registration processes; and (v) lack of adequate housing finance mechanisms for all income levels. A large proportion of the constantly growing urban population is consequently compelled to seek housing in slums and informal settlements characterized by insecurity of tenure, inadequate basic urban services (water, sanitation, waste management), and poor and overcrowded housing. At the same time, social housing programmes implemented in some countries have been criticized for being located far from job opportunities with poor public transport links, and having inadequate services, facilities and amenities.[13]

10 League of Arab States (2016) Arab Strategy for Housing and Sustainable Urban Development 2030.

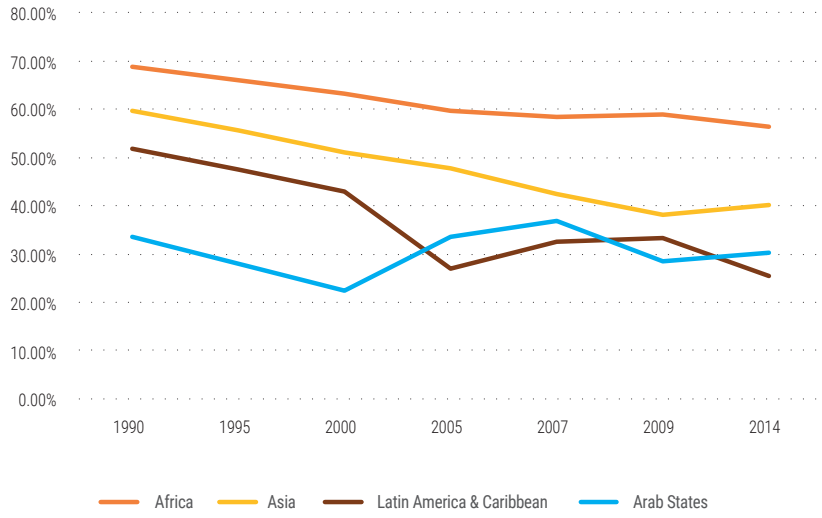
11 United Nations Conference on Housing and Sustainable Urban Development (2017) Habitat III Regional Report Arab Region: Towards Inclusive, Safe, Resilient and Sustainable Arab Cities

12 League of Arab States (2004) Arab Charter on Human Rights.

13 League of Arab States and UN-Habitat (2016) Towards an Arab Urban Agenda

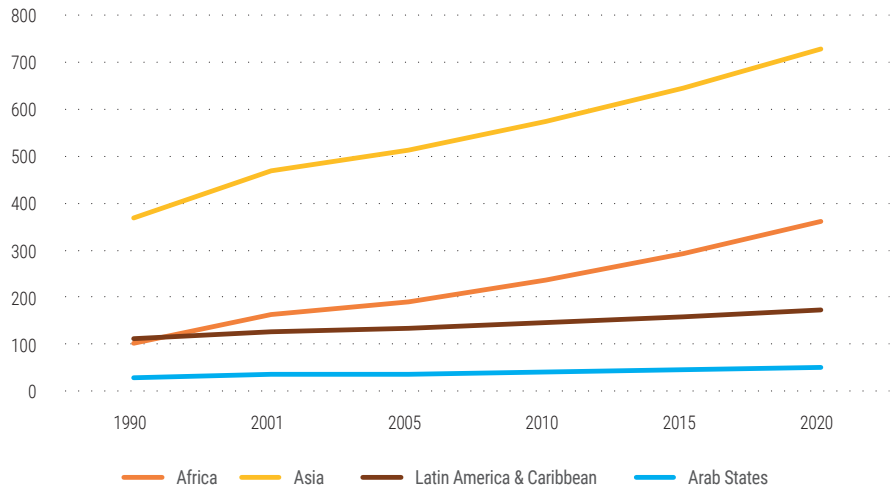
The proportion of the population in the Arab States region living in slums and informal settlements has fallen, as Figure 5 shows, but the absolute numbers of slum and informal settlement dwellers have remained more or less constant, as shown in Figure 6. Therefore, despite considerable progress, the proliferation of slums and informal settlements continues to present a considerable challenge in the Arab region, perpetuated by the high price of land, population movements and displacement cumbersome land transactions and tenure registration procedures, limited access to credit and financial constraints on public land management and development.

Figure 5. proportion of urban population living in slums



Source. UN-Habitat

Figure 6. Urban population living in slums (in millions)



Source. UN-Habitat

Conflict and displacement

The Arab States region has faced various conflict and post-conflict situations in the past few decades, with most of the countries having suffered from at least one conflict in the last 10-year period. Conflicts have resulted in a weakening of the rule of law, declining national and, in particular, local government capacity to provide services; a spread of informal housing and land grabs; and increased levels of crime and reduced urban safety.[14] The conflict has had profound global, regional and national consequences — triggering massive internal and external displacement and refugee flows, regional instability and risk of further conflict.

As at the end of 2016, the total number of displaced persons reached a global record high, with 59.9 million people characterized as refugees, internally displaced persons (IDPs), or asylum seekers, driven predominantly by conflicts in the Arab region. This growing total in the last few years is in large part due to the Syrian crisis, swelled by ongoing conflicts in Somalia, Sudan, and Yemen and continued instability in Iraq and Libya. Climate change, which has increased the frequency and magnitude of dry seasons, has also instigated population displacement in the last 20 years. In Iraq, the total number of displaced persons was estimated at about four million in June 2015 — many of whom had fled to cities such as Baghdad and Erbil in the Kurdistan Region.[15]

Accounting for 58% of the world refugees, the Arab region houses the highest number of migrants and refugees globally, and Arab cities are struggling to address the resulting challenges,[16] in particular those relating to housing and basic infrastructure and services provision.

The UN-Habitat Regional Office of Arab States (ROAS) initiated an operational guide on *Migration and Inclusive Cities*,[17] targeted primarily at Arab city leaders, that focuses on the multiple challenges associated with the massive flow of migrants from and into the cities of the Arab region. Such operational guides are a valuable resource for urban authorities faced with information and technical knowhow challenges.

Cross cutting issues

Gender equality

The Arab Charter on Human Rights affirms gender equality in respect of human rights within the framework of the positive discrimination established in favour of women by Islamic Shariah and by other applicable laws. However, the traditional gender bias and discrimination continues to prevail in both urban and rural areas, and remains the most critical challenge to gender equality and empowerment of women. Moreover, many women can only access housing through relationships with males; and when these cease to exist (e.g. through death, violent conflict, etc.) women are left vulnerable and unable to find alternative housing for themselves and their children.[18]

Gender equality and women's empowerment are more restricted in Arab countries than in other regions. In 2012, the region had the widest gap in the global gender gap index, which takes account political empowerment and economic participation and opportunity. Women labour force participation is slightly less than 24%, and, among young women, it is less than 18&, the lowest rate among all regions. Women's share of gross domestic product (GDP) is only about 29%, compared to 50% in all developing countries; while the poverty rate is 31.6% among women compared to 19.0% among men.[19]

14 UN-Habitat (2020) Informal Settlements in the Arab Region: Towards Arab Cities without Informal Settlements" Analysis and Prospects.
15 UN-Habitat (2020) Informal Settlements in the Arab Region: Towards Arab Cities without Informal Settlements" Analysis and Prospects.
16 UN-Habitat (2018) UN-Habitat Regional Office for Arab States: Overview 2018.
17 UN-Habitat (2018) Migration and Inclusive Cities: A Guide for Arab City Leaders.
18 UN-Habitat (2015) Arab Regional Strategic Plan.
19 UNDP (2016) Arab Human Development Report 2016: Youth and the Prospects for Human Development in a Changing Reality.

The *Habitat III Regional Report Arab Region*[20] affirmed that the region had made significant progress towards meeting the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs), with greater gender parity in education and improved health outcomes in cities having lifted many out of urban poverty. The *Arab Sustainable Development Report*[21] similarly highlights increased gender equality in employment and political representation — but also highlights that it falls significantly short of global benchmarks.

Youth

Two-thirds of the Arab region's population is aged below 30 with half of this number falling within the 15-29-year age bracket. Youth unemployment is the highest in the world, standing at 29% compared to 13% worldwide in 2013.[22] About one in four youth (28%) are unemployed. Indeed, youth unemployment is a major challenge to governments trying to address the mismatch between a high demand for low-paid foreign workers in the region and a shortage of well-paid jobs for nationals.[23] Failure to create opportunities for young people risks jeopardizing urban security and national stability, as the events of the Arab Spring that began in 2011 demonstrate.[24] Indeed, *the State of the African Cities Report 2008,*[25] which covered the Arab States on the Africa continent, highlighted the potentially highly volatile social and political consequences of large numbers of unemployed urban youth combined with lack of affordable housing and adequate urban services and amenities. It is therefore imperative that urban and housing policies address the challenge of the fast-rising numbers of highly educated, unemployed urban youth.

Human rights

The Arab Charter on Human Rights[26] aims to, among others: (i) Place human rights at the centre of the key national concerns of Arab States; (ii) Teach patriotism and citizenship in accordance with human rights principles and values: (iii) Prepare new generations for life in a society governed by the values of equality, tolerance and moderation; and (iv) Entrench the principle that all human rights are universal, indivisible, interdependent and interrelated.

The *Arab Sustainable Development Report*[27] emphasizes the need for governments in the region to acknowledge that good governance, effective institutions and peace are interlinked, and that they are prerequisites for sustainable development. The Arab countries therefore need to work with the international community to enforce international human rights and humanitarian laws, and the right to self-determination.

Climate change

The Arab region is one of the most vulnerable regions of the world to the negative impacts of climate change and their various interactions: high temperatures, scarcity of water resources, increased drought and desertification, increased salinity of groundwater, threats to coastal areas, and the spread of epidemics, pests and diseases. Most of the region is comprised of over-arid, arid and semi-arid ecological zones. Ninety per cent of the population in the region lives on 4% of the total area, and over 60% cent in cities and towns. In many countries, most of the population, government and administrative centres and physical assets are located along, or close to, the coastline. The coastal and marine areas in general, and coastal cities in particular, have seen significant growth in economic and development activities in recent years which has increased vulnerability to climate change.[28]

20 United Nations Conference on Housing and Sustainable Urban Development (2017) Habitat III Regional Report Arab Region: Towards Inclusive, Safe, Resilient and Sustainable Arab Cities

21 ESCWA (2015) Arab Sustainable Development Report.

22 UNDP (2016) Arab Human Development Report 2016: Youth and the Prospects for Human Development in a Changing Reality

23 UN-Habitat (2012) The State of Arab Cities 2012: Challenges of Urban Transition.

24 United Nations Conference on Housing and Sustainable Urban Development (2017) Habitat III Regional Report Arab Region: Towards Inclusive, Safe, Resilient and Sustainable Arab Cities

25 UN-Habitat (2008) The State of the African Cities Report 2008: A framework for addressing urban challenges in Africa

26 League of Arab States (2004) Arab Charter on Human Rights

27 ESCWA (2015) Arab Sustainable Development Report

28 UN-Habitat (2019) Local Climate Action in the Arab Region: Lessons Learned and Way Forward



A market in Amman, Jordan. © Shutterstock/StockphotoVideo

The State of Arab Cities 2012[29] identifies climate change as one of the major challenges facing the region. Climate change can potentially destabilize the region, in among other ways, by intensifying water and food security concerns, increasing competition for scarce resources, deepening poverty and social instability through reduced economic growth, and catalyzing environmental migration. Indeed, *"Climate change serves as a multiplier of threats that exacerbates existing vulnerability with severe environmental, economic, social, and political repercussions"*.[30]

The ROAS *Arab Regional Strategic Plan*[31] highlights that the effects of urbanization and climate change are converging in dangerous ways. Cities are major contributors to climate change.

Although they cover less than 2% of the earth's surface, they produce over 60% of all carbon dioxide and significant amounts of other greenhouse gas emissions. They are consequently heavily vulnerable to climate change, with urban populations worldwide affected by rising sea levels, increased rainfall and flooding, and more frequent and stronger cyclones. In this regard, a key target of the LAS *Strategy for Housing and Sustainable Urban Development is "Improved urban environmental sustainability and resilience; against climate change, reduced environmental losses and protected natural assets in the Arab region"*. The ROAS Regional Strategy thus promotes policy dialogue on the urban dimension of climate change in global fora, as well as by regional, national and local authorities; and also supports climate change urban risk assessments and development of mitigation and adaptation strategies, plans and targets.

29 UN-Habitat (2012) The State of Arab Cities 2012: Challenges of Urban Transition

30 UN-Habitat (2019) Local Climate Action in the Arab Region: Lessons Learned and Way Forward

31 UN-Habitat (2015) Arab Regional Strategic Plan.



Traditonal market of rosary beads and gemstones in Basra city. © Shutterstock/ Mohammed_Al_Ali

4. COMPARATIVE COUNTRY CASE STUDIES

Iraq

Overview

Iraq is one of the easternmost countries of the Arab world. It is bordered to the north by Turkey, to the east by Iran, to the south by Kuwait and Saudi Arabia, and to the west by Jordan and Syria, as Figure 7 shows. It has 58 km of coastline along the northern end of the Persian Gulf, giving it a very limited area of territorial sea.Iraq also benefits from its unique geography in the region: two great rivers, the Euphrates and the Tigris, converge in the heart of the country, creating a fertile alluvial plain and large tracts of cultivatable land. In addition, It is well-endowed with natural resources, making it potentially one of the wealthiest nations in the region and the world.[32]

Iraq also has amongst the largest oil reserves worldwide. In 2019, it was the fourth-equal largest oil producer accounting for 5% of total global oil production. [33] Its oil sector accounts for 99% of export earnings, while the agricultural sector has continuously declined,[34] despite the agricultural potential.

Iraq is administratively divided into 18 governorates, with the Kurdistan Region of Iraq (KRI) in the north, the most stable area in the country —which comprises the governorates of Dohuk, Erbil and Sulaymaniyah — governed as an autonomous region by the Kurdistan Regional Government (KRG).

Rapid population growth is posing a major challenge to development in Iraq in general, and to urban development in particular. The population tripled to 30 million between 1970 and 2007, and the current estimated population of 40 million is growing at a rate of 2.32% per year.[35]

Iraq's successive conflicts over past decades, including the Iran-Iraq war (1980-88), have had a devastating impact on the largely state-run, oil-dominated economy. While the market economy has grown since the United States invaded Iraq in 2003, the private sector remains small, contributing minimally to GDP and employment levels.[36] Iraq's GDP per capita in 2019 was US$ 5,955.[37]

The 2019 *Human Development Report*[38] classifies Iraq as a 'middle development country' with a Human Development Index (HDI) value of 0.689 (see Annex 8), ranking it 120th out of 189 countries.

Figure 7: Location map of Iraq



Urban context

Nearly 70% of Iraq's population lives in urban areas, as Table 12 shows, and there are several large cities that reflect this. The largest city by far is the nation's capital, Baghdad, with a population of 9.5 million. The cities of Basra and Mosul both have populations exceeding 2 million, while Erbil, Hilla, Kirkuk and Sulaymaniyah all have populations of over one million.[39]

32 https://education.stateuniversity.com/pages/682/Iraq-HISTORY-BACKGROUND.html.

33 Together with Canada and China (also 5% each) after United States (19%), Saudi Arabia (12%) and Russia (11%) (https://www.eia.gov/tools/faqs/faq.php?id=709&t=6).

34 EASO (2019) EASO Country of Origin Information Report: Iraq - Key socio-economic indicators.

35 UN-Habitat (n.d.) Country Profile Iraq

36 EASO (2019) EASO Country of Origin Information Report: Iraq - Key socio-economic indicators.

37 https://data.worldbank.org/indicator/NY.GDP.PCAP.CD

38 UNDP (2019) Human Development Report 2019.

39 https://worldpopulationreview.com/countries/iraq-population/

Table 12: Comparative Urban Indictors – Iraq, Egypt, Jordan

	Iraq		Egypt		Jordan	
	Value	**Year**	**Value**	**Year**	**Value**	**Year**
Surface area (km2)	435,052	2014	1,002,000	2014	89,318	2014
Population (projection)	37,548,000	2016	93,384,000	2016	7,748,000	2016
Pop. density (per km2)	86.5	2016	93.8	2016	87.3	2016
Capital city	Baghdad	2015	Cairo	2015	Amman	2015
Capital city population	6,643,000	2015	18,772,000	2015	1,155,000	2015
Population growth rate (average annual %)	3.3	2010-2015	2.2	2010-2015	3.1	2010-2015
Urban population growth rate (average annual %)	3.0	2010-2015	1.7	2010-2015	3.8	2010-2015
	2005	2014/2015	2005	2014/2015	2005	2014/2015
Urban population	18,826	24,847	30,884,000	36,538,000	4,253	6,435
Level of urbanization (%)	68.8	69.5	43.0	43.1	81.2	83.7
Proportion of urban population living in slum areas (%)	52.8	47.2	17.1	10.6	15.8	12.9
Urban Slum Population	9,974	11,383	5,677,000	3,807,000	689	808
	Value	**Year**	**Value**	**Year**	**Value**	**Year**
Urban Gini Coefficient			0.34	2010		
Urban poverty headcount ratio based on national poverty lines	14.8%	2012	15.3%	2010	13.9%	2010

Source: *http://habitat3.org/the-new-urban-agenda/preparatory-process/national-participation/iraq/*
http://habitat3.org/the-new-urban-agenda/preparatory-process/national-participation/eqypt/
http://habitat3.org/the-new-urban-agenda/preparatory-process/national-participation/jordan/

Iraq's cities are facing contemporary challenges, which can generally be classified into two categories: (i) general issues that are connected to the processes of rapid urbanization in a developing country and that can also be observed in other countries of the developing world; and (ii) a severe armed conflict which is threatening a big part of its cities and their populations.[40]

Housing context

Demand for housing in Iraq has been growing because of rapid population growth and the influx of IDPs into urban areas. The Iraq National Housing Policy developed with policy advice and technical assistance support from UN-Habitat in 2010, observed that the housing deficit, already large at the start 2000, was greater still; and that a minimum of 2 million additional housing units was required by 2016. However, as noted in the *National Development Plan for the Years 2010-2014,*[41] the country had only a fraction of the capacity required to meet the need.

The Housing Policy identified several challenges, many of which were interrelated and therefore had to be addressed comprehensively. These included the following (in descending order of importance):

1. Substantial unmet housing demand as supply has been constrained by several factors
2. Acute shortage of buildable urban land.
3. Near total lack of formal housing finance.
4. deficient legal and regulatory framework for private sector investment in housing.
5. Inadequate infrastructure in many housing areas and declining infrastructure service levels due to inadequate maintenance.
6. Low housing affordability among many households.
7. Deteriorated housing conditions owing to underinvestment in housing maintenance.

40 UN-Habitat (n.d.) Country Profile Iraq

41 Republic of Iraq (2010) National Development Plan for the Years 2010-2014

8. Undercapitalized construction sector dominated by low-productive public enterprises.
9. Lack of established procedures for upgrading or redeveloping informal settlements.

Rapid urban population growth has not only led to a housing shortage but also poor and overcrowded living conditions. *The National Development Plan 2010-2014* highlighted that 10% of households and 11% of citizens were living in housing that did not meet "the minimum health and environmental conditions that must be available in any proper house." Estimates cited in the Iraq CPD 2013-2015 put the proportion of Iraqis living in slum-like conditions at up to 57%.[42]

The number of informal settlements in Iraq is also growing. Today there is a total of approximately 1,600 informal settlements in all the governorates, accounting for almost 7.7% of all neighbourhoods in Iraq.[43] The residents comprise both IDPs and economic migrants who, unable to afford housing supplied by the formal market, are compelled to live in informal settlements.

Cross-cutting Issues

Gender equality

Despite significant achievements in reducing the gender gap — especially in the fields of education, health, employment and political participation — the gap remains wide. The *National Development Plan 2018-2022* affirms that the gender gap still undermines development owing to the traditional stereotypes of women's roles. This is reflected in the still relatively low participation of women in economic and social life, and their limited role in the political and legislative institutions.[44]

Approximately 70% of IDPs in Iraq live in rented space or with host families in inadequate housing conditions that endanger women and girls in particular by making them more vulnerable to gender-based physical and mental violence.

Indeed, sexual harassment and verbal abuse of IDPs is so widespread and severe that many women and girls have receded from public space, increasing their social isolation.[45] As the crisis continues, and overall economic and household financial pressures mount, gender-sensitive sustainable housing solutions become more urgent and important.

Youth

The high rates of population growth in Iraq means a growing number of youth both nationally and in urban areas. This is presenting a challenge to development in general, and to urban development in particular. The country has seen a significant increase in the youth population, which now constitutes 28% of the total population, and this percentage will continue to rise over the next two decades. The lack of a comprehensive national policy targeting the youth has made services provided to the youth unclear, purposeless and ineffective.[46] With the urban population projected to more than double from 23 million in 2011 to 48.2 million by 2050, if urgent action is not taken, the challenges relating to youth unemployment and access to land and housing will become even greater.[47]

42 UN-Habitat Iraq's definition of a slum has been adapted to fit available data from the Iraq Household Socio-Economic Survey (IHSES), 2007. A slum is defined as housing that meets one or more of the following conditions: 1) house walls are made of reed or non-stable materials or windows are made of non-stable materials 2) more than 3 persons per room (room includes bedrooms, living rooms, dining rooms, guest rooms) 3) subjective evaluation of the head of the household saying they do not have a sufficient water supply 4) 1 toilet per 10 or more persons 5) tenancy of the house is not owned, nor rented, not provided by an employer or household has no agreement with the owner.

43 Republic of Iraq (2014) National Report of the Republic of Iraq for Habitat III 2016

44 Republic of Iraq (2018) National Development Plan 2018-2022.

45 Gender-sensitive Durable Shelter Support for Internally Displaced Persons in Iraq 2016-2017: Project Completion Report.

46 Republic of Iraq (2014) National Report of the Republic of Iraq for Habitat III 2016.

47 UN-Habitat (2012) Iraq Country Programme Document 2013-2015.

Human Rights

The Iraq Vision 2030 — under the second of the five identified national priorities, 'Good Governance' — aims to build effective administrative institutions which respect the political, civil and human rights and guarantee justice and equality of all people. The human rights situation remains fragile as the country continues to transition from years of conflict and violence, dictatorship, to peace and democracy. While positive steps have been taken, including the establishment of the Independent Human Rights Commission in 2012, a lot more still needs to be done. As underscored by the Special Representative of the UN Secretary-General for Iraq, *"Human rights, including social and economic rights…need to be seen to be respected, protected and enforced."*[48]

Climate Change

Considered one of the most vulnerable countries to climate change in the Arab States region's, Iraq is facing its impacts, including rising temperatures and humidity levels, declining precipitation, widespread drought and aridity, and increasingly frequent sand storms.[49] The *National Development Plan 2018-2022* asserts that Iraq and other Arab states will be at the heart of the world's climate change challenge by 2050. With population growth further straining increasingly scarce natural resources, the Government's capacity to develop and implement climate change adaptation and mitigation measures in the complex post-conflict reconstruction needs to be critically strengthened.

Constitutional, policy and institutional framework

The Constitution of Iraq [50] was adopted on 15th October 2005. Article 14 affirms equality of all Iraqis before the law without discrimination based on gender, economic or social status, or other specified criteria, while Article 16 guarantees all Iraqis equal opportunities . Furthermore, Article 30 affirms:

> **The State shall guarantee to the individual and the family — especially children and women — social and health security, the basic requirements for living a free and decent life, and shall secure for them suitable income and appropriate housing.**

The Iraq National Housing Policy aims "To facilitate access to decent housing for all Iraqis". Its specific objectives are the following:

1. To facilitate access to decent housing[51] for all Iraqis.
2. To increase efficiency in the production of housing.
3. To increase choice among Iraqis as to the type of housing, location, and tenure characteristics.
4. To increase the ability of the Government to address the needs of special groups and those unable to afford suitable housing.
5. To improve the quality, including energy efficiency and environmental impacts, of new housing.
6. To improve the ability of homeowners to improve and expand existing shelter.

The policy shifts the Government's emphasis from being a primary provider of housing to enabling housing supply through facilitating the participation of the private sector and other housing actors.

The Ministry of Construction, Housing, Municipalities and Public Works (MoCHMPW), which has responsibility for implementation of the Housing Policy, as established in 2015 following the merger of the Ministry of Construction and Housing (MoCH) and the Ministry of Municipalities and Public Works (MoPW). Prior to the merger, UN-Habitat worked closely with the MoCH to develop the National Housing Policy. UN-Habitat also supported MoCH in drafting the chapters of the National Development Plan on housing and construction; water and sanitation; and essential services.

48 https://www.ohchr.org/EN/NewsEvents/Pages/RespectAndProtectHRInIraq.aspx.

49 UN-Habitat (n.d.) Country Profile Iraq.

50 Republic of Iraq (2005) Constitution of the Republic of Iraq, 2005.

51 "Decent housing" is understood to afford an adequate amount of space, adequate protection from the elements and access to basic infrastructure, social services, and employment areas.

National Development Planning Frameworks

Iraq Vision 2030

The *Iraq Vision 2030*[52] launched in 2019 provides a road map to achieve the vision of *"Empowered Iraqis in a safe country, a unified society with diversified economy, sustainable environment, justice, and good governance"*. The Vision comprises five sections which express Iraq's national development goals: (1) 'Man building'; (2) Good governance; (3) A diversified economy; (4) Safe society; and (5) Sustainable environment. It also reflects the "5 Ps" that shape the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs): People, Planet, Prosperity, Peace and Partnerships. The Iraqi national development vision is therefore clearly consistent with the overall global development vision articulated in the SDGs.

Goal 1-5 of the Vision is to *"Provide decent housing and end informal settlements"*. The Vision states that the housing policy should enable access to decent and appropriate houses for all social classes.

National Development Plans

Iraq's mid-term (five-year) National Development Plans (NDPs) articulate a vision, strategic objectives and action plans to develop the country's economy and society over the life of the plan. The challenges facing the housing sector are among those addressed in the NDPs. The current NDP 2018-2022 has several housing-focused development objectives, including: (i) Completing residential projects under implementation or suspension estimated at 700,000 housing units in all provinces except KRI; (ii) Securing 100,000 housing units using modern construction methods and techniques; and (iii) Establishing 100,000 housing units suitable for IDPs, slum dwellers and 'transgressors' in line with the National Plan for Reconstruction and Development of Damaged Governorates due to Terrorist and Military Attacks.

Strategy for the Reduction of Poverty in Iraq 2018-2022

The Strategy for the Reduction of Poverty in Iraq 2018-2022[53] which has adopted the SDGs as a general framework, has a goal of reducing poverty by at least 25% by 2022, underscoring Iraq's commitment to achieving the SDGs. The Strategy presents a plan to improve standards of living, provide protection against risks and hazards, and to economically empower the poor and transform them into productive, economically and socially integrated citizens, The Strategy adopts six outcomes/pillars that address the key dimensions of poverty: (1) sustainable income for the poor; (2) improved health status of the poor; (3) improved education for the poor; (4) suitable housing and environment responsive to challenges; (5) effective social protection; and (6) emergency response activities. The 'housing and environment' outcome prioritizes the problem of slums and the provision of affordable housing for the poor.



Vendors of souvenirs on the steps in front of the historic Citadel in Erbil, Kurdish Iraq. © Shutterstock/ Klara Bakalarova

52 Republic of Iraq (2019) Iraq Vision 2030.

53 Republic of Iraq (2018) Strategy for the Reduction of Poverty in Iraq 2018-2022: Executive Summary.

Egypt

Overview

Egypt, officially the Arab Republic of Egypt, is a transcontinental country spanning the northeast corner of Africa and Western Asia (Middle East) via the Sinai Peninsula. It is bordered by the Mediterranean Sea to the north; Libya to the west; Sudan to the south; the Gaza Strip (Palestine) and Israel to the northeast; and the Gulf of Aqaba and the Red Sea to the east. Across the Gulf of Aqaba lies Jordan, and across the Red Sea lies Saudi Arabia, as shown in Figure 8. Egypt is the most populous country in the Middle East and the third-most populous in Africa (after Nigeria and Ethiopia). About 95% of the country's 100 million people live along the banks of the Nile and in the Nile Delta. These regions are among the world's most densely populated, containing an average of over 1,540 persons per km², compared to 96 per km² for the country as a whole.[54]

In addition to the agricultural capacity of the Nile Valley and Delta, Egypt's natural resources include oil, natural gas, phosphates, and iron ore.[55] It also produces almost all of the basic building materials used in housing construction and even has export capacities.[56]

Following the revolutions of 25th January 2011 and 30th June 2013, Egypt is addressing the current and growing challenges facing different sectors, including the housing sector.[57] Its focus on achieving the MDGs resulted in a decline in the proportion of the population living in extreme poverty from 8.2% in 1990 to 3.4% in 2008/2009. However, the revolutions and the consequent political and economic instability led to a decline in the economic growth rate from a high of 7.2% in 2007/2008 to a low of 1.8% in 2010/2011. Economic growth thereafter faced years of slow recovery in the following years, reaching 5.6% in 2019[58] Egypt's GDP per capita in 2019 was US$ 3,020,[59] and it was ranked 116th out of 189 countries in the 2019 *Human Development Report* with a HDI of 0.700 (see Annex 8).

Figure 8: Location map of Egypt



Urban Context

Ancient Egyptian civilization was established on the premise of urban construction. The ancient Egyptians relied on the construction of cities because of the existence of the River Nile as the lifeline of the Egyptians and the population density at the time, both in Upper and Lower Egypt.[60] Since then, urban population growth in Egypt has continued unabated, with much of it concentrated along the banks of the Nile.

Today, almost half (43%) of the population (see Table 12) lives in 223 cities, of which 56 % are concentrated in the Greater Cairo Region and Alexandria governorates. With over 18 million inhabitants, the Greater Cairo Region accommodates close to one in five of the country's population and is the largest city in the Arab world and a prime engine for economic growth.[61]

54 https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Demographics_of_Egypt.
55 https://www.globalsecurity.org/military/world/egypt/natural-resources.htm.
56 UN-Habitat (2016) Egypt Housing Profile.
57 http://walklikeanegyptian2.blogspot.com/2015/04/egyptian-natural-resources-then-and-now.html
58 https://www.worldbank.org/en/country/egypt/publication/economic-update-october-2019.
59 https://data.worldbank.org/indicator/NY.GDP.PCAP.CD.
60 Hamdy (2017) Urban Planning in Ancient Egypt.
61 UN-Habitat (2016) Country Profile Egypt.

However, urban planning, infrastructure and service delivery have not been able to keep pace with the rapid urban growth which Egypt has experienced in the last four decades. As a result, the country is facing critical urban challenges. In particular, inefficient public land management systems and prohibitive housing policies have left impoverished households with no alternative but to settle in informal unplanned, and sometimes unsafe, areas.

Specific policies were developed with an aim of directing urban growth and expansion, which focused on major land reclamation, the creation of new cities, and the establishment of major economic and urban development projects. However, despite over 22% of the total infrastructure investment being allocated to the development of the new cities, 95% of the urban population increase in the past two decades has not been absorbed by these mega projects, but rather by the existing agglomerations.[62]

The lack of efficient and accountable planning and management systems in Egypt, as well as rapid urbanization, have caused socio-political and economic challenges that the country has been unable to adequately address, and contributed to the Arab Spring events of 2011 calling for more transparent and accountable local government.[63]

Housing context

The housing sector in Egypt has been faced with numerous challenges. Egypt has never had a comprehensive housing policy, which has constrained the Government's ability to address the pressure on the housing sector caused by high population growth and rapid urbanization. Government policies and programmes for underserved population groups have been implemented by multiple uncoordinated units within the Housing, Utilities and Urban Communities (MOHUUC) and other public authorities, which has resulted in major gaps in supply of and access to adequate, affordable housing for especially low-income and vulnerable groups.

Egypt's Vision 2030[64] identifies the most significant challenges facing the housing sector as:

- The expanding gap between housing need and the current supply of housing.
- High housing prices, especially for middle-income household.
- Increasing cost of housing construction.
- Slow-moving procedures and their complexity to obtain licenses from specific authorities.
- Lack of incentives to rent unused units.
- Poor condition of housing units rented according to the old rental system.
- Development and expansion of slums and the lack of a comprehensive and effective solution.
- Constraints to growth of the mortgage market.
- Continuous decrease in land suitable for building, which has led to a significant increase in the price of land and expansion onto agricultural areas.
- Rural-urban migration — especially of young people to the capital and major cities.

In addition, Egypt also hosts refugees and asylum-seekers from more than 60 countries,[65] which compounds the housing challenge.

According to the Egypt Habitat III National Report,[66] 37% of the population lived in slums in 1993. This number reduced to 35% in 2006 but increased again to 38% in 2013, aggravated partly by the events of 2011. Currently, about 1,171 areas across the country accommodating a total of about 15 million people, are considered informal,[67] of which 60% are located in the Greater Cairo Region.[68]

62 UN-Habitat Egypt (n.d.) Advancing Sustainable Urbanization in Egypt to Improve Living Conditions for All.

63 UN-Habitat (2016) Country Profile Egypt.

64 Arab Republic of Egypt (2016) Sustainable Development Strategy: Egypt's Vision 2030.

65 Human Rights Watch (2019) World Report 2019.

66 Arab Republic of Egypt (2016) Arab Republic of Egypt National Report.

67 Two official definitions of 'Informal areas' have been adopted in Egypt: 1) 'Unplanned areas' according to the Building Law (119/2008) are those "Areas that have arisen in violation of laws and planning regulations"; and 2) 'Unsafe areas', which are further categorized as 'Life threatening areas' (1st Degree); Unsuitable shelter areas (2nd Degree); Health risks areas (3rd Degree); and Tenure risk areas (4th Degree).

68 UN-Habitat (2016) Country Profile Egypt

Constitutional, legal, policy and institutional frameworks

The Arab Republic of Egypt is governed by the 2014 Constitution which addresses fundamental human rights and freedoms, among them, the right to decent, safe and healthy housing (Article 78). Egypt has ratified all the major human rights conventions, including the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights (ICESCR), which includes the right to adequate housing as a component of the right to an adequate standard of living.

The Social Housing Law of 2014 established the Social Housing Fund (SHF) with the objective of providing houses for low-income households. The Fund is the implementing entity of the Social Housing Programme also launched in 2014 which aims to provide one million houses for low-income households. All Governorates are required to avail well located land for the Programme, and identify the type of projects the Governorates require based on citizens' demand and priorities.

The Ministry of Housing, Utilities and Urban Communities (MOHUUC) was created in 2015 and has responsibility for drafting housing laws and regulations and designing social housing programmes. It is also responsible for providing oversight for their implementation in consultation with relevant housing entities, and managing financial resources for social housing. MOHUUC has a representative in each Governorate, who is responsible for the implementation of the housing policy in collaboration with the Governorates' housing directorates. MOHUUC implements its programmes through the housing directorates of local Governorates and the New Urban Communities Authority (NUCA).

The Informal Settlements Development Fund (ISDF) was established by Presidential Decree 305 of 2008 with the mandate of: i) managing and coordinating responsive actions to informal settlements; and ii) managing the necessary funds and resources to implement and maintain projects. ISDF's responsibilities include the survey of informal settlements and development of a complete vision for upgrading and the preparation of a national plan for upgrading informal areas.

ISDF is also responsible for coordination and overseeing the implementation of upgrading projects in addition to mobilizing and managing financing and funding for upgrading projects.

The General Organization for Physical Planning (GOPP) is responsible for formulating general urban policies, plans, programmes and projects, in close collaboration with various development partners and interested parties, for sustainable human settlement development. GOPP operates at national, regional and governorate levels.

National Development Planning Framework

The *Sustainable Development Strategy: Egypt Vision 2030*,[69] the country's overall framework for development at the national level launched in 2015, is entirely in line with the SDGs. The development concept adopted by the strategy is based on the three dimensions of sustainable development — economic, social and environmental — and includes a total of 10 pillars as follows:

1. The Economic Dimension comprises the pillars of i) economic development; ii) energy; iii) innovation and scientific research; and iv) transparency and efficiency of governance institutions.

2. The Social Dimension involves the pillars of i) social justice; ii) health; iii) education and training; and iv) culture.

3. The Environmental Dimension includes the pillars of i) environment; and ii) urban development.

The 'Programmes and Projects for Economic Development to 2030' under the 'First Pillar: Economic development' include a programme to reform the institutional environment in the housing sector. Specifically, the programme aims *"to restore balance in urban development and increase private sector involvement in the housing sector, in addition to providing affordable, decent housing for a large segment of citizens"*. It has further set a target of building one million housing units project within the framework of the Social Housing Programme in the first phase (2016-2020) of the Economic Development Programmes to 2030.

69 Arab Republic of Egypt (2016) Sustainable Development Strategy: Egypt's Vision 2030

Jordan

Overview

The Hashemite Kingdom of Jordan, commonly called Jordan, is located in Southwest Asia and is part of the Middle East. It is bordered by Syria to the north, Iraq to the north-east, Saudi Arabia to the east and the south, and Israel and Palestine to the west. The Dead Sea is located along its western border and the country has a 26-kilometre coastline on the Red Sea to the extreme south-west, as shown in Figure 9. The relatively small, semi-arid, almost-landlocked country covers an area of 89,342 km^2 and has a population of about 10 million. The capital, Amman, is the country's most populous city with a population of about 4 million, as well as the country's political, economic and cultural centre.

Jordan has insufficient supplies of water, oil, and other natural resources. Rainfall is low and highly variable, and much of the available ground water is not renewable, and only about 10% of its land is arable. Its economic resource base centres on phosphates, potash, and their fertilizer derivatives; tourism; overseas remittances; and foreign aid. Lacking coal reserves, hydroelectric power, or commercially viable oil deposits, it is dependent on natural gas for 10% of its domestic energy needs.

Jordan has however demonstrated its ability to remain resilient, maintain internal cohesion, and reinvent itself in the face of adversity. The combination of the global financial crisis of 2009, Arab spring regional turbulence, security costs, energy crisis, disruption to its trade routes (exports to Iraq amounted to 20% of Jordan's total exports), increasing food and oil prices and a decline in remittances has put a significant strain on Jordan's economic development. Jordan's GDP growth between 2000 and 2009 averaged 6.5%, but from 2010 until 2016 average growth reduced to 2.5%.[70] Real GDP growth was 1.9% in 2018, marginally lower than in 2017, and stood at 1.8% during the second quarter of 2019.[71] GDP per capita in 2019 was US$ 4,330.[72]

Figure 9: Location map of Jordan



Jordan still faces external regional challenges, with the crises in neighbouring Syria and Iraq causing influxes of refugees, and greater health and education costs. Despite this, Jordan's HDI in 2018 was 0.723, putting it in the high human development category, and ranking it 102nd out of 189 countries (see Annex 8).

Urban context

The urban sprawl and lack of urban planning in Jordanian cities since the 1960's has resulted in high infrastructure and services provision costs. Jordan's cities have grown at a rate parallel with other cities in the Arab States region, in which doubling, or depending on regional conflict, tripling every 25-30 years has been the general trend. In that time, many of Jordan's cities and towns have expanded over some of the country's most limited and valuable natural resources. At the same time scattered, uncoordinated urban development is becoming more costly to service and maintain.

70 Economic Policy Counci (2017) Jordan Economic Growth Plan 2018 - 2022

71 https://www.worldbank.org/en/country/jordan/overview

72 https://data.worldbank.org/indicator/NY.GDP.PCAP.CD

Attracted by urban economies, amenities, institutions and educational opportunities, Jordanians are transitioning from rural to urban ways of life. Planning for this urban growth is critical as the young population matures and education levels continue to increase, and greater demands for jobs, housing, transit and social services are placed on the country's urban centres. Addressing this challenge and capturing the economic opportunity requires comprehensive planning and equitable investment to ensure the needs of future generations are met. There is currently a disconnect between the urban planning efforts of municipalities, and infrastructure and service delivery organized and implemented by central government agencies, creating urban development and management challenges. Consequently, urban growth is based on spontaneous land-use planning decisions and partial initiatives, in addition to market and land speculation forces, with infrastructure being subsequently provided. A concentration of 10 houses is enough to oblige the government to provide road access, water, electricity and street lighting.[73]

Housing Context

Jordan's urban housing situation is largely defined by the refugee crisis that the country has been faced with. Jordan hosts over 655,000 registered Syrian refugees and has the second highest refugee host population ratios in the world (89.55 per 1,000 inhabitant). The influx of Syrian refugees has strained the country's resources and negatively impacted most of the economic sectors which were already struggling before the crisis. The housing market has been one of the most affected; this is particularly true in governorates of Mafraq, Irbid, Amman, and Zarqa which host the largest number of refugees. The most significant direct impact of the crisis on the housing market has been rental price inflation, which peaked in 2014. The increased demand for cheap housing, coupled with a shortage of affordable housing, led to an increase in the supply of inadequate/informal housing units including the rental of garages, shops, and basements.[74]

The refugee crisis is severely straining the absorption capacity of the Jordanian housing market, with housing identified as a primary cause of community tensions. Around 90,000 housing units are required for the 518,000 urban refugees living outside the camps. Jordan was already experiencing a severe housing shortage even before the influx of refugees, with the Jordanian housing sector supplying an annual average of 28,600 units during the period 2004-2011 against an annual pre-crisis demand of 32,000 units. Rental housing is increasingly less affordable for lower income Jordanian households and there are no affordable entry-level housing options for lower middle-income Jordanians.[75] Although the construction sector is strong, housing supply, particularly by the private sector, has not been well aligned with demand. This has led to an oversupply at the middle and upper end of the market and a lack of affordable housing for the lower-middle and low-income market.[76]

Constitutional, policy legal and institutional frameworks

The Constitution of the Hashemite Kingdom of Jordan[77] was adopted on 11th January 1952. The Constitution is the fundamental law of the land, and contains a range of civil and political rights for Jordanian citizens, reinforced by legislation regulating the exercise of these rights and the obligations of the State to ensure their enjoyment by all citizens. The Constitution has been amended several times since it was first promulgated in 1952 — in 1954, 1955, 1958, 1960, 1965, 1973, 1974, 1976,1984,2011, 2014 and 2016.[78]

The Constitution makes no reference to the right to adequate housing. However, Article 11 prohibits expropriation of people's property, except for public utility and with just compensation.

The Jordanian National Charter, adopted in June 1991, is the primary document of reference in terms of political freedoms and rights — but it too does not address the right to adequate housing.

73 MOPIC and Nations (2013) Needs Assessment Review of the Impact of the Syrian Crisis on Jordan

74 UNHCR and NRC (2018) Assessment of the Jordanian Market Place

75 Ministry of Public Works and Housing (2016) Jordan: Comprehensive Vulnerability Assessment Sector Template: Shelter.

76 https://oldweb.unhabitat.org/jordan/jordan-housing-and-slum-upgrading/

77 Kingdom of Jordan (1952) Constitution of The Hashemite Kingdom of Jordan

78 Salameh and Darawsheh (2018) Human rights in the Jordanian constitution: between theoretical texts and practical application

The Ministry of Public Works and Housing (MoPWH) is the government body responsible for housing construction and regulations. In general, MoPWH focuses on large-scale public works programmes and delegates many of its housing policy functions to the Housing and Urban Development Corporation (HUDC). Created in April 1992 through the merger of the Housing Corporation and Urban Development Department following the adoption of the National Housing Strategy in 1989, HUDC is the public agency in charge of the housing sector with its two main functions being: (1) To develop comprehensive housing policies (normative function); and (2) To implement projects, including through PPPs (operational function). To date, HUDC has implemented 185 projects to house over 44,000 households throughout the countr.y[79].

The Ministry of Social Development implements housing programmes for the most vulnerable Jordanian families at 100% subsidy, granting either new or renovated housing units to eligible households. Between 2002 and 2015, a total of 1,500 of these housing units were provided.

National Development Planning Framework

In 2015, *Jordan 2025: A National Vision and Strategy*[80] *(Jordan 2025)* was launched, providing a new 10-year socioeconomic development blueprint for the country. This national vision and strategy document articulates a general framework for the country's economic, social, environmental and cultural development objectives and policies. Its basic principles include promoting rule of law and equal opportunities, strengthening institutions, increasing participatory decision making and achieving fiscal sustainability. This will require improving infrastructure; enhancing education and health services; enhancing economic growth; providing decent work opportunities, especially for women and youth; ensuring balanced local development; and strengthening the role of the private sector and civil society organizations (CSOs).

The *Jordan Poverty Reduction Strategy (PRS) 2013-2020*[81] is aligned with other national strategies as well as the MDGs. The Strategy's overall goal is to reduce poverty, vulnerability and inequality through the adoption of a holistic and results-oriented approach targeting poor and below middle-class households. A key guiding principle is to uphold human rights for all Jordanians, especially women, children and persons with disabilities. Based on the overall vision, mission and guiding principles, the PRS has nine specific goals, the ninth being *"To provide improved transport, housing and utilities to members of poor and vulnerable households"*. Strategic Pillar 5 thus addresses the development of transport and housing, with a focus on ensuring access to services for the poor.

Executive Development Programmes (EDPs) — multi-year integrated national government development plans prepared through a participatory approach — translate *Jordan 2025* into actionable and monitorable sectoral strategies, plans and development programmes. Both *Jordan 2025* and the EDP 2016-2019 are aligned with the SDGs and the 2030 Agenda, and both have adopted a set of strategic objectives related to the empowerment of women in education, health, employment and participation in the labour force, social protection, and poverty reduction.

Jordan's multi-year national development framework also includes development programmes for each governorate as part of the decentralization drive. These are based on a participatory, bottom-up consultative approach aimed to address the regional disparities and needs among governorates, whilst targeting unemployment and poverty challenges and putting in place investment plans for each region according to their respective competitive advantages.

79 UN-Habitat (2015) Jordan Affordable Housing Programme Report: March 2015

80 Government of Jordan (2015) Jordan 2025: A National Vision and Strategy.

81 Government of Jordan (2013) Jordan Poverty Reduction Strategy.



Ordinary life in the city of Duhok in Kurdish Iraq. © Shutterstock/Klara Bakalarova

Summary Comparative Analysis

The regional and comparative country case studies — Iraq, Egypt and Jordan— highlight the differences in economic and human development between the three countries; as well as the different urban and housing contexts; constitutional, policy, strategy, legal and institutional frameworks; and national development planning frameworks.

Table 13: Comparative Urban Indictors – Iraq, Egypt, Jordan

	Iraq		Egypt		Jordan	
	Value	**Year**	**Value**	**Year**	**Value**	**Year**
Surface area (km^2)	435,052	2014	1,002,000	2014	89,318	2014
Population (projection)	37,548,000	2016	93,384,000	2016	7,748,000	2016
Pop. density (per km^2)	86.5	2016	93.8	2016	87.3	2016
Capital city	**Baghdad**	**2015**	**Cairo**	**2015**	**Amman**	**2015**
Capital city population	6,643,000	2015	18,772,000	2015	1,155,000	2015
Population growth rate (average annual %)	3.3	2010-2015	2.2	2010-2015	3.1	2010-2015
Urban population growth rate (average annual %)	3.0	2010-2015	1.7	2010-2015	3.8	2010-2015
	2005	2014/2015	2005	2014/2015	2005	2014/2015
Urban population	18,826	24,847	30,884,000	36,538,000	4,253	6,435
Level of urbanization (%)	68.8	69.5	43.0	43.1	81.2	83.7
Proportion of urban population living in slum areas (%)	52.8	47.2	17.1	10.6	15.8	12.9
Urban Slum Population	9,974	11,383	5,677,000	3,807,000	689	808
	Value	**Year**	**Value**	**Year**	**Value**	**Year**
Urban Gini Coefficient			0.34	2010		
Urban poverty headcount ratio based on national poverty lines	14.8%	2012	15.3%	2010	13.9%	2010



Baghdad, Iraq. © Shutterstock/ Rasool Ali



Souvenirs street in Madaba, Jordan. Madaba dates from the Middle Bronze Age and called "The City of Mosaics"
© Shutterstock/ Anton_Ivanov

PART 2 – REGIONAL AND COMPARATIVE COUNTRY CASE STUDIES ANALYSIS OF THE REGIONAL AND COUNTRY HOUSING APPROACHES

5. THE UN-HABITAT HOUSING APPROACH IN THE ARAB STATES REGION

Regional Office for Arab States

Overview

UN-Habitat has been engaged with the Arab States region for over 30 years[82]. However, the current UN-Habitat Regional Office for Arab States (ROAS) was established in 2011, after the former Regional Office for Africa and Arab States (ROAAS), which supported Africa and the Arab States region, was split into two entities: (1) ROAS and (2) Regional Office for Africa (ROAf). ROAS assumed the full coverage of its regional mandate in 2013, which covers 18 countries across the Arab region.[83]

ROAS supports countries to advance sustainable urbanization as a driver of development and peace based on the premise that well-planned inclusive urbanization can solve many of the region's challenges. ROAS provides knowledge, policy advice, technical assistance and collaborative action, including in project implementation, to support its objectives in the region, focusing on four main pillars of action: (1) Reduced poverty and spatial inequality in urban and rural communities; (2) Enhanced shared prosperity of cities and regions; (3) Strengthened climate action and improved urban environment; and (4) Effective urban crisis prevention and response.[84] It also provides tools and support for regional mechanisms to coordinate cooperation in the fields of urban development and housing in the Arab region. This is effectively the 'Arab States region Housing Approach'.

UN-Habitat currently has a presence in the 13 countries shown in Figure 11, where it is providing support to national and local governments and other Habitat Agenda Partners (HAPs)[85] through a diversified portfolio with a value of over USD 290 million (2014-2020).[86] ROAS' programmes span across all of the agency's focus areas, and also derive from the priorities of the *Arab Strategy for Housing and Sustainable Urban Development 2030,* which was developed with the support of UN-Habitat. Objective 1 of the Strategy is: *"Ensuring access to adequate, safe and affordable housing and basic services, and prosperous living for all"*.

As in other regions, UN-Habitat relies on partnerships to develop and implement work at the regional, national and local levels. Its main partner in the region is the League of Arab States (LAS), with which it is collaborating in the implementation of the *Arab Strategy for Housing and Sustainable Urban Development 2030* to guide urban development in the region. However, UN-Habitat also collaborates with several other international, regional and local partners, as well as regional UNagencies.[87]

UN-Habitat's strong country presence in the Arab region facilitates collaboration with national and local authorities to advance sustainable urban development and housing agendas in the region. Indeed, partnership formation and working, and resource mobilization and fundraising are key strengths of UN-Habitat on which it is heavily reliant for both its normative and operational work.

82 UN-Habitat (n.d.) UN-Habitat in partnership with the Arab States.

83 Algeria, Bahrain, Egypt, Iraq, Jordan, Kuwait, Lebanon, Libya, Morocco, Palestine, Oman, Qatar, Saudi Arabia, Syria, Sudan, Tunisia, the United Arab Emirates (UAE) and Yemen.

84 UN-Habitat (2018) UN-Habitat Regional Office for Arab States: Overview 2018.

85 The Habitat Agenda partners, as identified in the MTSIP, include: local authorities, non-governmental and community-based organizations, the private sector, parliamentarians, foundations, trade unions, professionals and researchers, academies of science and engineering, human solidarity groups, youth groups and women's groups.

86 UN-Habitat (2018) UN-Habitat Regional Office for Arab States: Overview 2018.

87 The partners and donors include: UNDP, UN-DESA, UN-ESCWA, United Cities and Local Governments Middle East and West Asia, Islamic Development Bank, Ford Foundation, Sida, Adaptation Fund and Talal Abu Ghazaleh Foundation.

Regional Strategic Plan

The *Regional Strategic Plan (RSP)* for the Arab States was intended to provide a key tool to help ensure successful implementation of the UN-Habitat *Strategic Plan 2014 – 2019* at regional, subregional[88] and country levels. ROAS, as custodians of UN-Habitat's work in the Arab States, was responsible for its preparation, and in keeping with 'ONE-UN-Habitat' approach, collaborated with UN-Habitat substantive branches as well as COs in the region in its development.

The RSP was also developed in close relationship with the *Arab Strategy for Housing and Sustainable Urban Development 2030,* as is reflected in the RSP vision statement which is aligned to and anchored in its priorities. The RSP also represents the regional implementation mechanism for SDG 11: "Make cities and human settlements inclusive, safe, resilient and sustainable", as well as a guide for the implementation of the NUA in the region. The RSP has followed the guidelines[89] with respect to the:

1. Basic principles: a) Bridging the normative-operational divide; b) Flexibility for regional ownership; c) Planning for success (the search for impact); and

2. Substantive focus: a) Regional urbanization trends: Challenges and opportunities; b) Regional strategy and priority areas; c) Strategic results and key outputs; d) Implementation mechanisms.

The interrelationships between the RSP elements are concisely illustrated in Figure 10. This graphical model can potentially be adapted by the other ROs, thereby helping to ensure the relevance of the UN-Habitat's normative and operational activities to regional and country priorities.

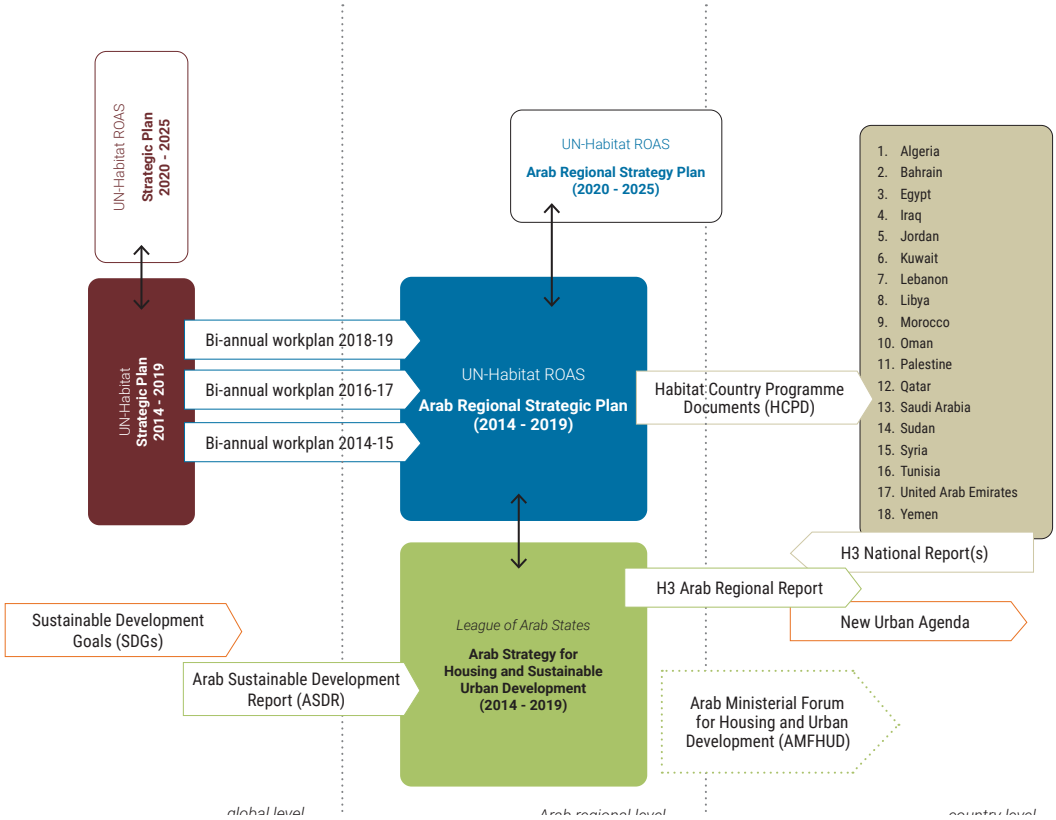


Amman, Jordon. © Shutterstock/milosk50

88 The RSP distinguishes four sub-regions: 1) Maghreb: Algeria, Morocco, Tunisia, Libya, (Mauritania); 2) Mashreq: Egypt, Lebanon, Palestine, Jordan, Syria, Iraq; 3) Gulf Cooperation Council (GCC) countries: Bahrain, Kuwait, Qatar, Saudi Arabia, Oman, United Arab Emirates; 4) Southern Tier: Yemen, Sudan, (Somalia, Djibouti, Comoros). The RSP also acknowledges that urbanization trends across the region have been significantly influenced by recent conflicts in particular countries and have impacted neighbouring countries; namely Libya, Lebanon, Palestine, Jordan, Syria, Iraq, Yemen and Sudan.

89 UN-Habitat (n.d.) UN-Habitat's Regional Strategic Plans (RS) and Habitat Country Programme Documents (HCDPs).

Figure 10: Flow-chart of ROAS Regional Strategic Plan elements



Source: Arab Regional Strategic Plan, p.4

The RSP prioritizes expected accomplishments (EAs)[90] and Sub-EAs as 'high' or 'medium' based on: i) the ranking of FAs and EAs in the SP 2014-2019; ii) the relevance to the Arab region; and iii) the prioritized urbanization challenges in the *Arab Strategy for Housing and Sustainable Urban Development 2030*. Indeed, it is important to adapt the global FAs and EAs to the regional and country contexts so as to ensure relevance of the planned normative and operational activities to the government and other housing stakeholders in the particular region and countries, and also to secure their buy-in and support. This articulation of the FAs and EAs/ sub-EAs further represents and explains the Housing Approach in the Arab region, which is consistent with the overall UN-Habitat as conceptualized by the evaluation team and summarily explained in section 1.

The EAs within the RSP are derived from the *SP 2014-2019* and related *Biennial Workplans*, and therefore reflect both normative and operational practices of the agency, including the Housing Approach and its constituent elements. However, the RSP does not prescribe one particular approach in any given situation, but rather offers a range of meaningful approaches towards finding context-specific solutions.

90 An expected accomplishment (EA), as defined in the End-of-Phase Evaluation: Global Land Tool Network (GLTN) – Phase 2, is "the intermediate state that must be reached in order to achieve the project objective and generate the expected impact" (p.8)

Regional Portfolio

UN-Habitat's key accomplishments in the region in the past two decades include the formulation of urban sector policies; advocating participatory urban and strategic planning; reconstruction of housing and basic urban services; and promoting good urban governance. Table 14 presents a synopsis of UN-Habitat's project interventions in the various countries in the region over the past 20 years, while more detailed results of the interventions by country are listed in Table 28.

Figure 11 gives a graphic overview of UN-Habitat's project portfolio in the different countries in the Arab States region in 2019, while Figure 12 shows the project portfolio themes and values for the period 2014-2018.

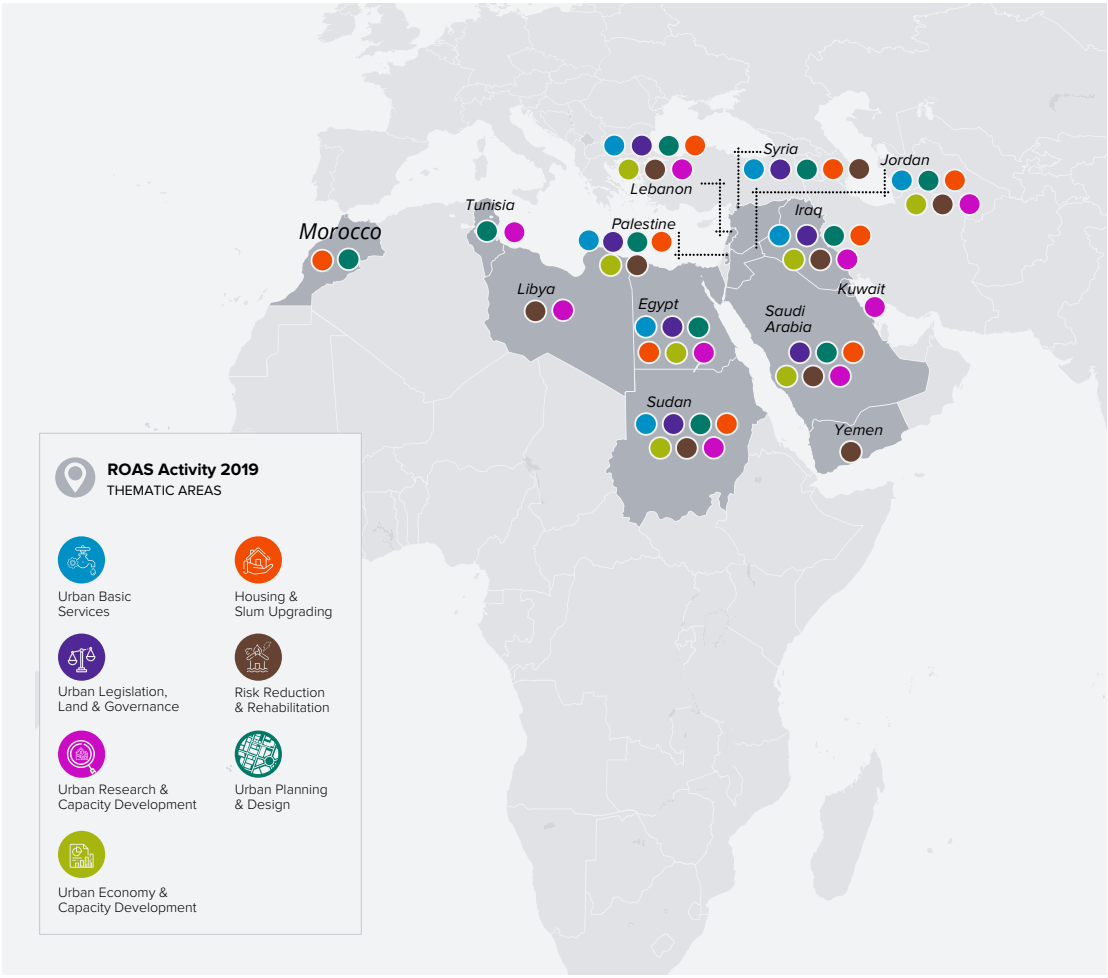
Table 15 shows the top five countries in the region according to total value of projects and number of projects. As can be seen, Iraq ranked highest in terms of number of projects as well as total value of projects. This is perhaps not unexpected given the immense international development community attention Iraq has received since the fall of Saddam Hussein in 2003. This being the case, it would be expected that UN-Habitat's normative and operational activities through the Housing Approach would have had the greatest impact in Iraq — which according to annual reports and other project reports and documentation is indeed the case.

Table 14: Synopsis of UN-Habitat's Interventions in the Arab region

Intervention	Country
Urban planning and housing surveys and profiles	Iraq, Somalia, Lebanon, Egypt, Kuwait, Bahrain, Saudi Arabia, Sudan
Design and delivery of housing and slum upgrading programmes including development of housing and shelter policies	Iraq, Somalia, Egypt, Bahrain, Sudan, Palestine, Morocco
Reconstruction and rehabilitation of urban infrastructure (housing, schools, markets, government buildings)	Iraq, Somalia, Lebanon, Egypt, Sudan, Palestine
Development and implementation of urban planning and management policies	Iraq, Somalia, Egypt, Libya, Lebanon, Bahrain, Sudan, Palestine, Morocco
Formulation of land management policies and legislation for implementation	Iraq, Somalia, Palestine
Design and delivery of local government capacity building and training	Somalia, Lebanon, Egypt, Dubai, Libya, Kuwait, Bahrain
Development and execution of urban governance and municipal decentralization policies	Somalia, Lebanon, Egypt, Dubai, Morocco, Libya

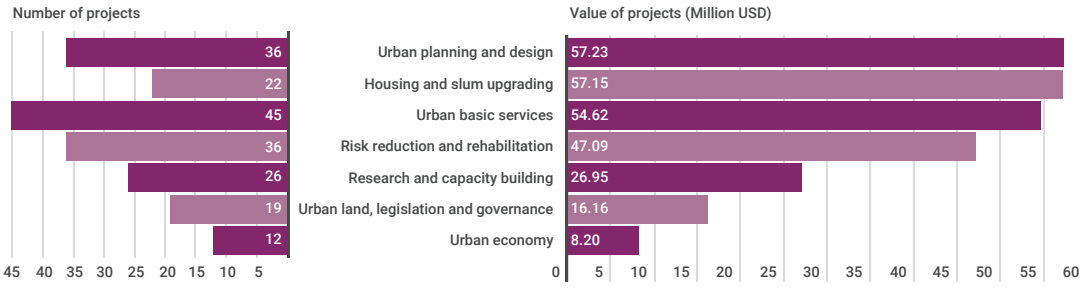
Source: After UN-Habitat in partnership with the Arab States

Figure 11: ROAS Activity by Thematic Area 2019



Source: UN-Habitat Annual Progress Report 2019, p.141

Figure 12: Themes and value of projects implemented in the Arab States region since 2014



Source: Country Activities Report 2019, p.165

Table 15: Country Value of projects (Million USD) and Number of projects

Country	Value of projects (Million USD)	Number of projects
Iraq	108	30
Syrian Arab Republic	29.7	21
Egypt	40	21
Sudan	22.02	9
Saudi Arabia	25	1

Source: Country Activities Report 2019, p.165

With respect to the themes and value of projects implemented in the Arab States region since 2014, Figure 12 shows that the themes with the most projects were 'Urban planning and design' and 'Risk reduction and rehabilitation', both of which had 36 projects. However, in terms of value of projects, the value of projects under the two themes of 'Urban planning and design' (USD 57.23 million) and 'Housing and slum upgrading' (USD 57.15 million) were highest. This is consistent with UN-Habitat's mandate, reiterated in the RSP, of assisting countries to develop and implement pro-poor policies, strategies and programmes addressing housing and slum upgrading that increase access to adequate, affordable housing, improve slum dwellers' living conditions and curb the growth of new slums.

The RSP affirms ROAS's aim of regionalizing key global UN-Habitat programmes on Safer Cities, Slum Upgrading, National Urban Policies, and Land and Water; as well as its aim of establishing regional programmes on migration and urban resilience. The normative and operational activities under the respective programmes address priority issues and objectives set out in the *Arab Strategy for Housing and Sustainable Urban Development.*

Cross-cutting Issues

A key aim of the RSP is to mainstream UN-Habitat's four cross-cutting issues of gender equality, youth, human rights and climate change into ROAS programmes and projects using UN-Habitat's *Cross-Cutting Markers.*[91] New programmes and projects must achieve a specified final rating for all four cross-cutting issues to be approved by the Global or Regional Project Advisory Group (PAG).

Gender Equality

A key strategy to achieve Objective 1: "Ensuring access to adequate, safe and affordable housing and basic services, and prosperous living for all" in the *Arab Strategy for Housing and Sustainable Urban Development 2030* is to empower women and youth to access land and legal tenure. This is also a main objective of the Global Land Tool Network (GLTN).

ROAS provides input on gender when reviewing concept notes developed by Country offices for submission to donors to ensure that gender equality is adequately addressed. The RSP also affirms that ROAS will continue to be involved in regional thematic groups such as the United Nations Development Group (UNDG)[92] Regional Group on Gender.

91 UN-Habitat has adopted a Marker system for each of the four cross-cutting issues based on the UN System-wide Action Plan (UN-SWAP) on Gender Equality and the Empowerment of Women (GEEW). This system requires every proposal to meet minimum requirements for mainstreaming each issue before it can be approved by the Project Advisory Group (PAG).

92 The UNDG unites the 32 UN funds, programmes, agencies, departments, and offices that play a role in development with the objective of delivering more coherent, effective and efficient support to countries seeking to attain internationally agreed development goals, including the SDGs.



Aerial view of the city of Cairo along the Nile river. © Shutterstock/Dereje

Youth

The RSP vision statement explicitly mentions youth and recognizes that *"the events of the Arab Spring also demonstrated that youth can be a powerful social force for positive change"* [93]. FA3 EA2.1 of the RSP thus focuses on the empowerment of youth to actively engage as development partners in shaping and managing cities and on creation of employment opportunities for youth.

The RSP also affirms that ROAS will continue to be involved in regional thematic groups such as the UNDG Regional Group on Youth.

Human Rights

The RSP reiterates that human rights, including the right to adequate housing, are contained in the Universal Declaration of Human Rights and other international human rights instruments, including the ICESCR and the Arab Charter on Human Rights, which have been ratified respectively by most UN Member States , among them the Arab States.

In seeking to ensure the mainstreaming of human rights into ROAS programmes and projects, ROAS provides input on the Human Rights-Based Approach (HRBA) when reviewing concept notes developed by COs for submission to donors, which is part of its delegated responsibilities.

Climate Change

Improving urban environmental sustainability and resilience against climate change is a key objective of the *Arab Strategy for Housing and Sustainable Urban Development 2030,* which is in line with SDG Target 11b on climate change, resilience to disasters and disaster risk management.

However, in the RSP, the two key climate-change related EAs —FA2-EA3.1 'Improved policy dialogue on the urban dimension of climate change in global fora, as well as by national, regional and local authorities' and FA2-EA3.1: 'Strengthened capacity of partner city, regional and national authorities to develop policies and strategies that contribute to the mitigation of and adaptation to climate change' — are given only medium priority.

93 UN-Habitat (2015) Arab Regional Strategic Plan, p.21.

Monitoring and Evaluation

The implementation of the RSP is to have been monitored through data collection and regular updates on the progress of the EAs and outputs at regional and country levels through meetings, reports and the use of UN-Habitat's Projects Accrual and Accounting System (PAAS), the agency's programme and project management systems, on a quarterly basis. However, the documentation available on PAAS did not provide evidence of such reporting.

In line with results-based management (RBM), the monitoring of the implementation of the RSP is meant to ensure accountability, sharing of best practices, and also inform decision making on future plans. In this regard, the *Performance Measurement Plan for the Six Year Strategic Plan (2014-2019)*[94] was intended to institutionalize RBM, and the *UN-Habitat Results-Based Management Handbook*[95] to strengthen and support UN-Habitat staff 's RBM understanding and skills — but this is not reflected in the monitoring reports available on PAAS, which do not provide robust and credible data on the outcomes and (potential) impacts, This presented a major challenge for the evaluation.

The implementation of the RSP is to be evaluated in 2020.

Impact Outlook

The *Evaluation of the Regional Office for Arab States*[96] of found that ROAS' good record and enhanced credibility, both regionally and nationally, increase scope for positive impact on normative reform and in support to operational programming and action, including in countries in the midst of severe crises. The findings of the document review are consistent with this.

The evaluation of ROAS also emphasizes that UN-Habitat's strategic decision to establish a RO in the Arab region itself (in Cairo, Egypt) has fully paid off, and that ROAS constitutes a very significant added value for the Agency in promoting its key policy messages in the region. ROAS has also enhanced its political legitimacy and credibility, increased proximity to national partners and improved efficiency. Indeed, as the *UN-Habitat Regional Office for Arab States: Overview 2018*[97] affirms, ROAS has seen an exponential growth in the breadth and depth of its programming in the Arab region thanks to funding from its partners.



Baghdad, Iraq. © Shutterstock/ Rasool Ali

94 UN-Habitat (n.d.) Institutionalizing Results Based Management: Performance Measurement Plan for the Six Year Strategic Plan (2014-2019).

95 UN-Habitat (2017) UN-Habitat Results-Based Management Handbook: Applying RBM Concepts and Tools for a Better Urban Future.

96 UN-Habitat (2016) Evaluation of the Regional Office for Arab States.UN-Habitat (2018) UN-Habitat Regional Office for Arab States: Overview 2018

97 UN-Habitat (2018) UN-Habitat Regional Office for Arab States: Overview 2018.

6. COMPARATIVE COUNTRY HOUSING APPROACH CASE STUDIES

Iraq

Overview

UN-Habitat has been active in Iraq since 1996. However, following the events of 2003, UN-Habitat was largely engaged in early recovery efforts, particularly those supporting IDPs through shelter and reconstruction solutions. Since then, the UN-Habitat Iraq Country Programme portfolio has expanded beyond emergency responses to include humanitarian programmes, such as providing IDPs and returnees with dignified shelter and living environments; and development programmes that provide technical and capacity building support to the national and local governments through activities such as development of the National Housing Policy and the National Urban Strategy, upgrading of informal settlements, and support to decentralization. UN-Habitat also chairs the Housing, Land and Property (HLP) Rights Sub-Cluster in Iraq under the Protection Cluster.[98]

In the MTSIP 2008-2013, UN-Habitat's country level support was based on its work in 26 pilot Enhanced Normative and Operational Framework (ENOF) priority countries, most of which were least developed countries (LDCs), to support the efforts of national governments, local authorities and other stakeholders. Iraq was one of the priority countries

Strategy

Habitat Country Programme Documents

A main objective of the MTSIP 2008-2013 Action Plan was to implement the ENOF to strengthen UN-Habitat's leadership and catalytic role. Habitat Country Programme Documents (HCPDs) were intended as strategic tools to guide all UN-Habitat activities within the ENOF over a two-year period, and to also "promote alignment of normative and operational activities at the country level".[99]

The evaluation reviewed two available HCPDs for Iraq: (i) the Iraq Country Programme Document (CPD) 2009–2011[100]; and Iraq Country Programme Document 2013-2015.[101]

In the Iraq CPD 2009-2011, operational activities focused on five priorities: (1) Promoting shelter for all; (2) Improving urban governance; (3) Reducing urban poverty; (4) Improving the living environment; (5) Managing disaster mitigation and post-conflict rehabilitation.

In line with the Housing Approach, advocacy, policy advice and technical assistance was focused on supporting governments in the formulation of policies and strategies to improve access to adequate housing for all and strengthen institutional capacity at both national and local levels. UN-Habitat also provided technical and managerial expertise for various activities, including identifying human settlement development constraints and opportunities, and designing and implementing housing and urban development projects. Capacity-building assistance was also provided to other HAPs.

The Iraq HCPD 2013-2015 affirmed that the MTSIP theme of sustainable urban development, which remained a key priority in UN-Habitat's normative and operational work until 2013 and provided an overall framework within which the agency was addressing more specific priorities, would guide the UN-Habitat Programme in Iraq. The HCPD thus identified four main urban sector priorities: 1) Urbanization, urban planning and local governance; 2) Land management and administration; 3) Pro-poor housing; and 4) Urban infrastructure and basic services.

98 https://UN-Habitat.org/iraq

99 UN-Habitat (2007) Medium Term Strategic and Institutional Plan Action Plan 2008-2013.

100 UN-Habitat (2009) Iraq Country Programme Document 2009–2011.

101 UN-Habitat (2012) Iraq Country Programme Document 2013-2015.

Based on the urban sector priorities, the Country Programme's key objectives and planned activities were consistent with the Housing Approach and included: (a) Knowledge sharing and exposure to new, modernised planning methods and tools, and capacity building of key actors (Priority 1); (b) Supporting the land policy development process (Priority 2); (c) Supporting implementation of the National Housing Policy; and initiating pro-poor housing and slum upgrading programmes (Priority 3); and (d) Providing capacity building and technical support on effective resource allocation to improve local service delivery (Priority 4).

A key principle in both the 2009–2011 and 2013-2015 HCPDs is that all of UN-Habitat's projects will be developed, implemented, and monitored in partnership with the relevant Iraqi ministries to ensure they are in line with national development priorities, strategies and plans. Indeed, national ownership is key to sustainability.

The *Evaluation of the UN-Habitat Urban Programme in Iraq 2004-2012*[102] found the HCPD to be a useful tool for Government and other partners' involvement and ownership; and for links with NDPs, and the United Nations Development Assistance Framework (UNDAF) and 'One United Nations' (One UN) strategies. It further noted that the HCPD enhanced visibility of UN-Habitat in-country activities and advocacy, and also provided a basis for resource mobilization.

Iraq Country Programme Project Portfolio

UN-Habitat's technical assistance in Iraq has, since 2003, focused on housing and sustainable urban development issues, which has resulted in the production of a number of national and local development policies such as the Iraq National Housing Policy; Iraq National Strategy – Long-Term Shelter Solutions for People Affected by Displacement; Affordable Housing Strategies for Kurdistan Region; and Baghdad Strategic Perspective on Informal Settlements/IDP Sites.

The overall country programme/project portfolio for the evaluation period 2008-2019, according to thematic categorization of the programmes and projects in the PAAS database, is presented in Annex 7 Only three project are listed under the 'Housing and Slum Grading' theme, but the greater number of projects do, in fact, aim to improve access to adequate housing or address one or more of the seven adequate housing criteria in Annex 1. This point is demonstrated through the illustrative programmes and projects presented in Table 16. This classificatory flaw presents a significant limitation for PAAS as a planning, monitoring or evaluation tool as the thematic categories do not seem to have any substantive meaning or logic.

Table 18 presents an illustrative selection of housing-related projects that have been implemented under the Iraq Country Programme over the evaluation period (2008-2019). The programmes and projects which are listed include both normative and operational activities, and were implemented in partnership with Iraqi urban and housing stakeholders as well as international development partners, as Table 17 shows. Many of the programmes and projects have addressed the FAs in the MTSIP 2008-2013 and SP 2014-2019, as well as national development priorities as identified in the NDPs that were launched during the evaluation period.

Partners

FA 1 in the MTSIP 2008-2013 was 'Effective advocacy, monitoring, and partnership'. The Iraq HCPD 2009-2011 thus emphasized partnership working, as did the HCPD 2013-2015, as explained above with respect to national ownership. Indeed, as Table 17 shows, UN-Habitat has worked with not only relevant Iraqi ministries and governorates, but also a range of other housing stakeholders and UN agencies in implementing projects through the Housing Approach. This not only improves project implementation, efficiency and effectiveness, but also enhances ownership, sustainability and impact.

102 UN-Habitat (2012) Evaluation of the UN-Habitat Urban Programme in Iraq 2004-2012

Table 16: Illustrative housing related programmes/projects

Programme/Project	Goal/Purpose/Objective/Expected Accomplishment/Activity
Improving the Housing Delivery System in Erbil	**Aim:** To strengthen the housing delivery system in Erbil through: (1) Improved governorate capacity to implement the Erbil Housing Strategy; (2) Enhanced slum upgrading and energy efficient housing practices.
Humanitarian support to IDPs in the Republic of Iraq including the Kurdistan Region of Iraq through provision of durable shelter	**Outcome 1:** Institutional capacity of the targeted Governorates and line ministries is developed to respond to shelter needs of IDPs.
Gender-sensitive Durable Shelter Support for Internally Displaced Persons (IDPs) in Iraq	**Objective:** To enhance self-reliance and improve living conditions of IDPs through establishment of gender sensitive IDP shelter sites equipped with durable prefabricated shelters as well as basic infrastructure and public facilities.
Supporting Recovery and Stability through Local Development in Iraq, LADP III	**Activity 3.1:** Damaged houses and public facilities rehabilitated in post conflict areas,
Initiating durable shelter solutions for Iraqi IDPs and returnees	**Expected Accomplishment 1:** IDPs and other vulnerable people living in informal settlements in Iraq have durable housing.
Facilitating Private Sector Investment in Durable Solutions in Iraq	**Expected Accomplishment 2:** Potential investors in Iraq have better information and understanding regarding the potential for investing in housing and mixed-use developments in select neighbourhoods of Baghdad.
Shelter and Infrastructure Support for Non-Camp Refugees	**Expected Accomplishments:** 1) Most Vulnerable Refugee Families have access to basic shelter; 2) Municipalities under strain are able to meet the basic services demands of increased populations.
Shelter Support for IDP's - Iraq	**Purpose:** To increase the shelter options/solutions for IDPs by providing prefab and collective shelter units also completing/converting unfinished buildings to accommodate families temporarily.
Humanitarian support to IDPs in the Republic of Iraq including the Kurdistan Region of Iraq through provision of durable shelter	**Outcome 1:** Institutional capacity of the targeted Governorates and line ministries is developed to respond to shelter needs of IDPs.
Support to Housing, Land and Property Rights for IDPs in Nineveh	**Aim:** To support housing, land and property (HLP) rights and claims of the displaced persons returning and recently returned, to areas liberated from the Islamic State of Iraq and the Levant (ISIL) in Nineveh governorate.

Table 17: Key programme/project partners

Project Title	'Partners/Stakeholders
Improving the Housing Delivery System in Erbil	CHF-International; private sector
Humanitarian support to IDPs in the Republic of Iraq including the Kurdistan Region of Iraq through provision of durable shelter	Governorate of Baghdad, Kerbala and Dohuk, Ministry of Migrants and Displacements (MoMD), local NGOs, local private construction firms; UN agencies (UNHCR, UNICEF, UNOCHA, WHO, UNFPA, UNWFP, FAO)
Gender-sensitive Durable Shelter Support for Internally Displaced Persons (IDPs) in Iraq	MoCH, MMPW, MoMD, Governorates of Anbar and Erbil
Supporting Recovery and Stability through Local Development in Iraq, LADP III	Governates; Ministries (Ministries of Planning at the Federal and KRI); Small and medium construction enterprises in the private sector
Initiating durable shelter solutions for Iraqi IDPs and returnees	MoCH, MoMD, MoP, MMPW, MoF, MoJ, Amanat Baghdad, Baghdad Governor, Norwegian Refugee Council (NRC), UNHCR, members of the UNDAF Housing Priority Working (PWG).
Facilitating Private Sector Investment in Durable Solutions in Iraq	Government of Iraq - Council of Ministers, Ministry of Finance, National Investment Commission, local authorities in Baghdad (Baghdad Provincial Council, Amanat Baghdad), UNHCR, NRC
Shelter and Infrastructure Support for Non-Camp Refugees	UNHCR, Erbil Governorate, Suleymaniah Governorate and Duhok Governorate
Shelter Support for IDP's - Iraq	UNHCR, UNOPS, UNDP, Governorates of Erbil, Dohuk, Sulaymanieh and other concerned governorates.
Humanitarian support to IDPs in the Republic of Iraq including the Kurdistan Region of Iraq through provision of durable shelter	Baghdad Governorate, Kerbala Governorate, Dohuk Governorate, MOMD, local NGOs, local private construction firms; relevant UN agencies (UNHCR, UNICEF, UNOCHA, UNFPA, UNWFP, FAO WHO)
Support to Housing, Land and Property Rights for IDPs in Nineveh	MoJ; Private sector; Civil society



City park with fountains in the center of the old city of Erbil, Iraq. © Shutterstock/Klara Bakalarova

Table 18: Iraq Country Programme: Illustrative housing related projects– Housing Approach elements and timeframe

	Housing Approach Elements					Cross-cutting Issues						
Project Title	**Knowledge**	**Advocacy**	**Policy Advice**	**Technical Assistance/ Capacity building**	**Implementation**	**Gender Equality**	**Youth**	**Human Rights**	**Climate Change**	**Pro-poor; Focus / Vulnerable Group Focus**		
Improving the Housing Delivery System in Erbil	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓		✓	✓	✓		
Humanitarian support to IDPs in the Republic of Iraq including the Kurdistan Region of Iraq through provision of durable shelter	✓	✓		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓		
Gender-sensitive Durable Shelter Support for Internally Displaced Persons (IDPs) in Iraq		✓		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓		✓		
Supporting Recovery and Stability through Local Development in Iraq, LADP III		✓	✓	✓		✓		✓	✓	✓		
Initiating durable shelter solutions for Iraqi IDPs and returnees	✓	✓		✓	✓	✓		✓		✓		
Facilitating Private Sector Investment in Durable Solutions in Iraq	✓		✓	✓		✓		✓		✓		
Shelter and Infrastructure Support for Non-Camp Refugees	✓		✓	✓		✓		✓	✓	✓		
Shelter Support for IDP's - Iraq	✓			✓	✓	✓		✓		✓		
Humanitarian support to IDPs in the Republic of Iraq including the Kurdistan Region of Iraq through provision of durable shelter		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓		✓		✓		
Support to Housing, Land and Property Rights for IDPs in Nineveh	✓	✓		✓		✓	✓	✓		✓		
Year	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019
Plan Period	MTSIP 2008-2013						SP 2014-2019					
Evaluation Period	**2008-2019**											

Consistency with the Housing Approach

Table 18 shows a list of selected case study illustrative programmes and projects that have been or are currently being implemented by the Iraq CO in the evaluation period 2008-2019. It also shows the elements of the Housing Approach that they involve, as well as the cross-cutting issues they address and whether or not they have a pro-poor and/or vulnerable group focus.

All the projects have a pro-poor/vulnerable group focus, which is not unexpected given the country context, the Government's national development priorities, and the prevailing IDP situation. This underscores the relevance of the Housing Approach interventions, which include both normative and operational activities as indicated in Table 18. All the projects also have a capacity building component, targeted at national line ministries, governates and/or municipalities, as well as IDPS, returnees and local community members to enhance self-reliance of and mutual assistance.

Cross-cutting issues

All the projects address one or more of cross-cutting issues, as can be seen in Table 18. All the projects address gender equality. In many of the operational implementation projects, the gender-sensitive interventions are targeted at women and girls in IDP camps who are especially vulnerable, as explained in section 4.1.4.

All the projects also address human rights. Some do so through an explicit gender-focus on women, thereby addressing women's rights, while others do so by improving security of tenure for IDPs and refugees through the Social Tenure Domain Model (STDM) — a pro-poor, participatory, flexible and affordable land tool for representing people-to-land relationships along the 'continuum of land rights' — thereby addressing land, housing and property (HLP) rights, as explained in Box 3.

Iraq Housing Approach Theory of Change (TOC)

Categorization of the Housing Approach

In line with the implementation of the Housing Approach generally applied at the country level in the Arab States region, the Housing Approach implemented in Iraq is characterized by the fundamental elements of the Housing Approach listed Table 7, namely: Knowledge management; Advocacy; Policy advice; Technical assistance/capacity building; and Operational and implementation support.

As Table 18 shows, all the projects that have or are being implemented in Iraq are overall consistent with the Housing Approach Framework in Table 7 and the overall TOC presented in Annex 5, involving at least three or more of the fundamental elements of the Housing Approach. Much of the work has focused on improving the housing conditions of IDPs in the rapidly growing cities in the different governorates.

Theory of Change

The analysis of UN-Habitat's Housing Approach in Iraq enabled the articulation of a country level TOC shown in Figure 13, which is adapted from the overall Housing Approach Framework TOC, which is illustrated in Annex 5.

As can be seen, the implementation of the housing approach is very consistent with the Comprehensive Housing Approach Framework summarized in Table 7. The extract from the UN-Habitat Annual Report 2008 presented in Box 2 illustrates the application of the Housing Approach in Iraq from as early as the start of the evaluation period (2008-2019).

Box 2: Iraq Housing Approach (2008)

Housing policy reform is well underway in Iraq. It benefits from technical support from the new Training and Knowledge Centre at the Ministry of Construction and Housing. Housing strategies are under deployment for three major cities, including Erbil. By the end of year under review (2008), the Government of Iraq was preparing for a housing conference to be held in January 2009.

[The] Iraq Programme provided for the rehabilitation of 2,450 housing units for the urban poor (including IDPs) and 245 educational facilities.

UN-Habitat also provided capacity-building — both on-the-job and formal technical and vocational education — with local job creation one of the tangible outcomes.

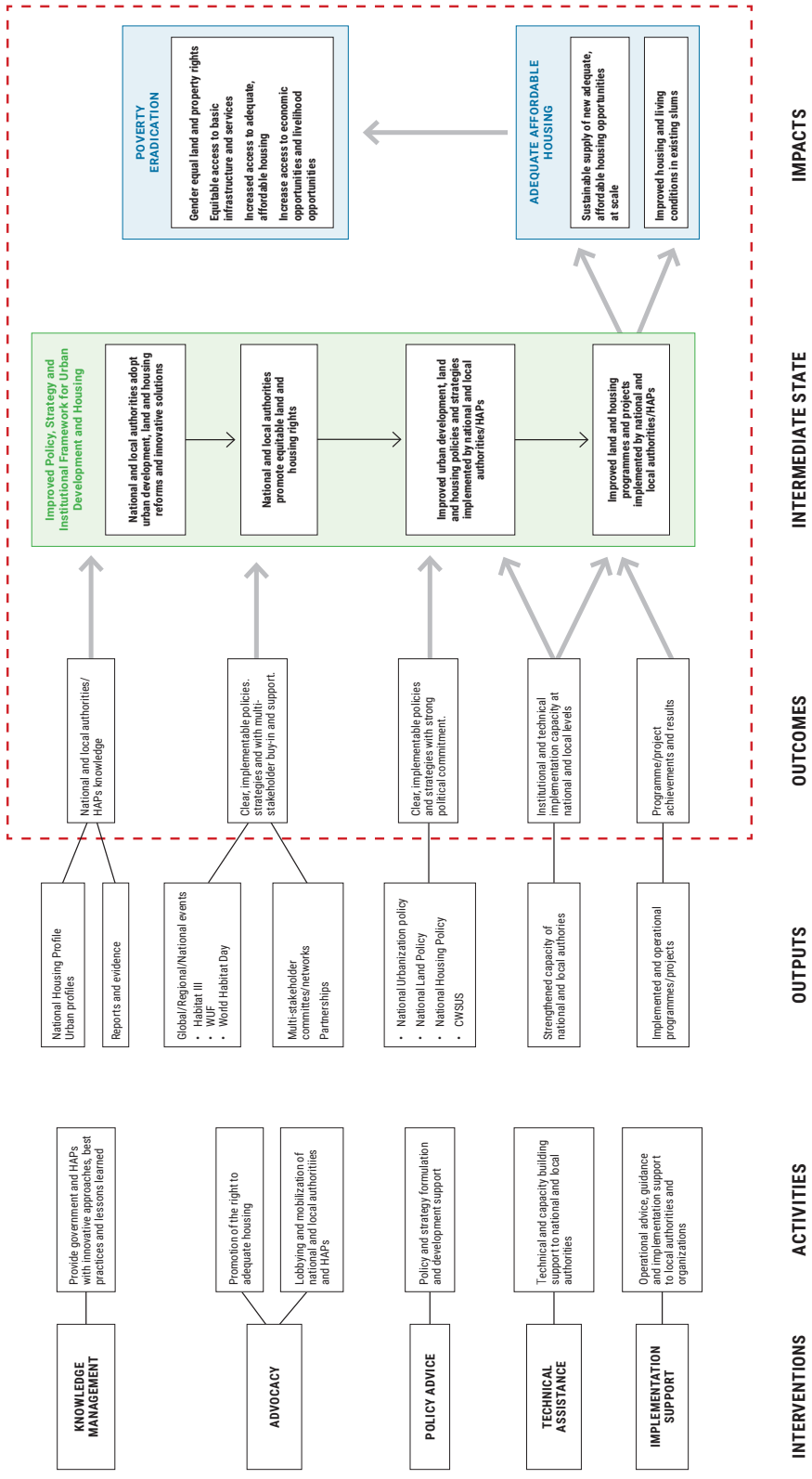
Source: UN-Habitat Annual Report 2008

Monitoring and reporting

Monitoring, evaluation and reporting are done regularly in accordance with the internal regulations of UN-Habitat and donor requirements. The Iraq CO uses the 'Progress in implementation of strategic plan at country level' template to report results achieved. This template is supposed to be used for each county. The evaluation reviewed the 'Report Results Achieved in 2018' and found these to be well-detailed and comprehensive. The CO also availed several well-documented project completion reports that used a standard format and provided comprehensive summary information on project achievements, beneficiaries, issues, results, and lessons learned and good practices.

Like most of the other COs, the Iraq CO does not use PAAS as an M&E tool.

Figure 13: Iraq Country Programme Housing Approach Theory of Change



Significant achievements and changes

The review of the Iraq Programme project reports, including Project Completion Reports for several projects, and interviews with ROAS and Iraq CO staff identified a number of significant achievements and changes in adequate and affordable housing and poverty reduction in Iraq that can be attributed to the Housing Approach — through which UN-Habitat has supported generation of knowledge products and evidence-based advocacy; provided policy advice, technical assistance and capacity building support; and supported operational implementation of projects. Some of these are briefly described below:

- Since 2016, UN-Habitat has rehabilitated more than 3,000 war damaged houses in key liberated cities including Mosul, Ramadi, Fallujah, Sinjar and towns in the Ninewa Plains.[103]

- In 2018, UN-Habitat and the Iraqi Government developed the *Iraq Housing Reconstruction and Housing Development Strategy in the Liberated Areas,* which provides a framework for provision of adequate housing — through rehabilitation of damaged houses, construction of low-cost housing units, and upgrading of informal settlements — to conflict affected families.

- Two projects were successfully completed in 2018 which significantly improved security of tenure for IDPs, and in particular for women and minorities, through using the STDM. UN-Habitat employed the STDM to map property claims and consolidate these alternative and informal property documentations to expedite land tenure verification through engagement of local community consultations. UN-Habitat initiated an innovative approach which recognized, for example, electricity bills as adequate property documentation, which extended opportunities for improving security of tenure.

    1. 'Housing, Land, and Property Rights Response for Vulnerable People in Mosul and Surrounding Areas', which employed the STDM to map property claims as briefly explained in Box 3, sustainably improved IDPs security of tenure, and has facilitated voluntary, safe and dignified return. The project benefitted about 6,000 people by carrying out reconstruction using the local methods in which houses are typically built.

    2. 'Pilot Housing Rehabilitation in Sinuni' which used the STDM approach to link original owners with their properties and provide them with certificates of occupancy — the first step towards the award of full ownership titles. 8,177 people have benefited from improved security of tenure through the project. [104]

- The 'Pilot Housing Rehabilitation in Sinuni (Phase II)' project rehabilitated 502 war-damaged houses in Sinjar District, Ninewa Governorate and employed 209 returnees (including 92 women) to rehabilitate the houses; and also issued 939 occupancy certificates to returnees giving them secure tenure.

- The 'Gender-sensitive Durable Shelter Support for Internally Displaced Persons (IDPs) in Iraq' project constructed a total 648 prefabricated housing units, accommodating a total of 5,342 persons, as well as basic infrastructure and public facilities on two sites in Governorates of Anbar and Erbil respectively.

- The living conditions of 228,700 individuals (including Syrian refugees) were improved and tenure security agreements provided to 657 Syrian refugee families (as at the end of 2014), through the "Shelter and peaceful co-existence projects for non-camp refugees" project (Phase II of "Shelter and infrastructure support for non-camp refugees")[105].

103 UN-Habitat (2019) Country Activities Report 2019: Supporting to the New Urban Agenda

104 UN-Habitat (2018) Annual Progress Report 2018: Working For A Better Urban Future</author></authors></contributors><titles><title>Annual Progress Report 2018: Working For A Better Urban Future</title></titles><dates><year>2018</year></dates><pub-location>Nairobi</pub-location><publisher>United Nations Human Settlements Programme (UN-Habitat.

105 UN-Habitat (2013) Annual Progress Report 2014: Implementation of the Strategic Plan (2014 - 2019)

- The 'Community-based Stabilization Project in Newly Liberated Areas in Iraq: Promoting Urban Recovery' project rehabilitated/replaced 739 housing units; trained 203 returnees in basic construction skills (e.g., carpentry, plumbing, electrical and welding) to enable them to maintain the rehabilitated houses and basic infrastructure; and employed 624 returnees in the rehabilitation/replacement activities, thereby improving their livelihoods.

- The Local Area Development Programme — a multidimensional integrated approach combined participatory local development processes, stimulation of local economic development and the improvement of social and physical infrastructure, and implemented through partnership working between UN-Habitat, UNDP, ILO and Iraqi stakeholders at the governorate, provincial and federal government levels — promoted more effective local development processes while tackling development objectives such as poverty reduction and economic recovery.[106]

The above examples are evidence that the housing approach in Iraq has had a positive impact on poor and vulnerable IDPs and returnees by creating opportunities for them to improve their living standards and ensure their housing rights through housing reconstruction/ rehabilitation.

The 'New Way of Working' adopted at the 2016 World Humanitarian Summit[107], was aimed to transcend the humanitarian-development divide. Since then, the concept has been considered in the context of UN reform and the triple nexus of humanitarian, development and peacebuilding (HDP) efforts. UN-Habitat has a unique comparative advantage in relation to the HDP nexus: while some agencies have both humanitarian and development mandates and experience, few have strong urban expertise. In this regard, UN-Habitat emphasizes the institutionalization of prevention strategies, through settlement planning, housing policies, city planning laws and building codes[108].

UN-Habitat has made use of this comparative advantage in not only Iraq, but also the other crisis-affected countries in the region — Jordan, Lebanon, Sudan and Syria.

The *Evaluation of the UN-Habitat Urban Programme in Iraq 2004-2012* rated the Programme's achievements under its main thematic pillars — housing and land, urban governance and planning, water and sanitation, and infrastructure — from good to impressive; and found its pro-poor approaches to be well targeted towards the disadvantaged urban poor, including IDPs and returnees.

Sustainability

The 'Facilitating Private Sector Investment in Durable Solutions in Iraq' project provides additional support to UN-Habitat's ongoing project 'Durable Shelter Solutions for IDPs and Returnees in Baghdad'. As such, it is part of a much broader effort to build capacity in Baghdad to address the challenge of informal settlements and the lack of durable solutions for IDPs and returnees. Building on earlier projects also contributes towards sustainability, wider replication, upscaling and, ultimately, impact.

Egypt

Overview

UN-Habitat has been working in Egypt since 2005 to support sustainable urbanization that is able to drive development and improve living conditions for all. It has also provided support to the Egyptian government on improved access to land and adequate and affordable housing in collaboration with its development partners, in particular local urban planning units in pilot governorates, and other key housing stakeholders. The Egypt CO has worked extensively to support the development and testing of various land management tools and practices, and planned city extensions in areas where multiple vulnerable groups are unable to capture the increased value of urbanization.

106 UN-Habitat (2012) Evaluation of the UN-Habitat Urban Programme in Iraq 2004-2012

107 The New Way of Working was adopted by eight UN humanitarian and development entities —FAO, OCHA, UNCHR, UNDP, UNFPA, UNICEF, WFP, WHO — and endorsed by the World Bank and IOM.

108 UN-Habitat (2017) UN-Habitat's Contribution to the Humanitarian-Development-Peace (HDP) Nexus

Box 3: Housing, Land and Property Issues Facing IDPs and Returnees

Forced displacement almost inevitably means the loss of housing, land and property (HLP) rights; and disputes regarding HLP ownership and usage often further destabilize crisis-affected communities. When displaced persons eventually consider returning, one of their most crucial concerns is if and how they will be able to reclaim their housing land and property. How well these HLP issues are addressed has significant implications for the wider community and the nation as a whole, and the safeguarding of peace and security in post-conflict situations.

To address this challenge, the Iraq Country Programme has introduced and implemented the Social Tenure Domain Model (STDM) as part of its urban recovery interventions to protect HLP rights of people affected by the crisis. The STDM is a pro-poor, gender responsive and participatory land information system developed by the Global Land Tool Network (GLTN) to bridge the gap between formally registered land and land that is not registered. It is a flexible and affordable land tool for representing people-to-land relationships along the 'continuum of land rights', independently of the level of formalisation and legality of those relationships. The STDM can be used to map property claims, promote community-based dispute resolution and expedite land tenure verification through engagement of local community consultations.

More recently, capitalizing on ROAS being hosted by MOHUUC in Cairo, the Egypt CO has been able to support Egypt play a leadership role among the Arab countries on a number of interventions and events. This is very much in line with Egypt's foreign policy and is well acknowledged by all counterparts. Prime examples include the support provided to MOHUUC and ISDF to undertake an analytical study on informal settlements in the region,[109] and support to hosting of a number of regional events on strategic planning, urban policies, and housing.

As co-chair of the Development Partners Group on Urban Development (DPGUD) and playing a very active role in the United Nations Country Team (UNCT), and through regularly facilitating and leading platforms for dialogue on urban development, the Egypt CO is now well positioned as the lead technical agency and point of reference on urban development and housing in the country. This has led to effective integration of urban development in the United Nations Partners Development Framework (UNPDF) as well as acknowledgement of urban development as a key sector and major factor that can accelerate progress towards sustainable development in the country in line with Egypt Vision 2030 and SDG 11.

Consistent with the UN-Habitat Housing Approach, the Egypt country programme has and continues to effectively support the government in urban related policy formulation and provide legislative and institutional support as well as capacity development of national stakeholders. The programme has also been able to advance global urban tools, through extensive dialogue and strong partnerships created with relevant stakeholders, and adapt and implement them to meet local needs to maximize the impact on urban development and the quality of lives of the citizens. These measures are supported by comprehensive and participatory advocacy and communication tools.

Country Programme

The UN-Habitat Country Programme is working to support the Government of Egypt to achieve sustainable urban development in Egypt through three main areas:

1. Supporting the government in reforming national and city-level planning practices. At the national level, UN-Habitat is providing technical support to introduce new approaches and tools to promote decentralized planning and alignment of spatial and socioeconomic plans. At the city level, it is using the three-pronged approach — planning, legislation, and finance — to work on new cities and on planned city extensions.

109 UN-Habitat (2020) Informal Settlements in the Arab Region: Towards Arab Cities without Informal Settlements" Analysis and Prospects.

2. Knowledge and Policy Development where UN-Habitat is undertaking studies and reports to support evidence-based policies. Two key knowledge products are a Housing Profile and Strategy which will inform the National Urban Policy which UN-Habitat is also spearheading.

3. Engagement: UN-Habitat launched the first ever Egypt Urban Forum themed 'My City My Responsibility' in June 2015, which provided a platform for dialogue that brought together academia, civil society, and government to discuss the challenges and opportunities of urban development and housing in Egypt.[110]

The Egypt CO has provided technical support to national counterparts on a wide range of urban and housing issues in line with the Housing Approach. Adopting an integrated approach, the CO has supported reform and improvement of urban planning and management through three programmes:

1. The Urban Policies, Governance and Legislation Programme aims to enhance the capacity of national and local actors to develop urban polices, and reform the legal and institutional framework governing territorial governance and citizen engagement.

2. The Strategic Urban Planning and Design Programme aims to promote sustainable urban development in Egypt by supporting the Government to improve the urban planning processes and methodologies, through an approach that updates urban planning theory and practice, and which will revive the sustainable relationship between urban dwellers and urban space.

3. The Housing, Urban Renewal and Informal Settlement Upgrading Programme aims to address the challenges of adequate housing for all while providing access to basic urban services, as well as upgrading and preventing informal and unsafe areas in Egypt.

   It provides technical advisory services to both national and local levels with the aim of building the necessary capacities at institutional and legislative levels to plan and implement inclusive, integrated and sustainable cities in Egypt.

The evaluation of ROAS affirmed that: *"The Egypt Country Programme appears as the one best approaching the three-pronged approach advocated by UN-Habitat. This was the result of broad synergy of effort among different thematic Branches at Headquarters, ROAS and the Country Team".*[111]

The evaluation did however also note some problems, which were mainly to do with coordination. However, the document review and interviews with the Egypt CO showed that these are being successfully addressed.

Egypt Country Programme Project Portfolio

The illustrative projects presented in Table 19 and the categorized list of 26 projects listed in PAAS presented in Annex 11 exemplify the wide range of ways in which the Egypt Country Programme is working, through a country specific housing approach, to influence national land and housing policies, strategies, capacity development, programmes, and resource allocation to address adequate, affordable housing needs and promote sustainable urban development and poverty reduction.

Only five of the 26 projects in PAAS are listed under the 'Housing and Slum Grading' theme, but the greater number of projects do, in fact, aim to improve access to adequate housing or address one or more of the seven adequate housing criteria in Annex 1. This point is demonstrated through the illustrative programmes and projects presented in Table 16. As in the case of the case study country programmes, this problem with the thematic categorization limits the utility of PAAS as a planning, monitoring and/or evaluation tool.

110 UN-Habitat (2016) The First Egypt Urban Forum 2015: "My City My Responsibility".

111 UN-Habitat (2016) Evaluation of the Regional Office for Arab States.

Key Programme/Project Partners

Since its establishment, the Egypt CO has been able to build strong partnerships with housing stakeholders for enhanced project implementation efficiency, as well as ownership, impact and sustainability of interventions. Through partnerships ranging from the national to the local and community level, UN-Habitat has supported government ministries, departments and agencies (MDAs) to assess and respond to housing needs; developed and strengthened interactive and inclusive platforms and dialogue fora that integrate knowledge and experience of housing actors and other HAPs (including national and local government, international agencies, academia, non-governmental organizations (NGOs) and local communities); and ensured local and community participation during identification, design, planning and implementation of project level interventions. This is reflected in the partners involved in various programmes and projects shown in Table 20.

Table 19: Housing-related objectives and activities of programmes and projects

Project Title	Goal/Objectives
Strategic Development in Greater Cairo Region	**Purpose:** Contribute to national efforts to address slum upgrading and prevention of developing further slums.
Participatory review of Egyptian planning and related urban development legislation to support sustainable urban development- Egypt	**Human rights strategy:** Immediate relevance to the right to housing; and to formal and customarily recognized rights such as the rights to livelihood, health and environment.
Achieving Sustainable Urban Development Priorities (ASUD) - Egypt	**Overarching objective:** contribute to poverty reduction at the local level through improved access to better serviced housing and property rights.
Human Security through Inclusive Socio-economic Development in Upper Egypt	**Expected Accomplishment 3:** Partnerships at city and community level for implementing housing and slum upgrading initiatives strengthened
Participatory Citywide Urban Upgrading (PCWUU) in Egypt	**Purpose:** Most vulnerable target communities prioritized for upgrading responding to basic needs of adequate housing conditions.
Hayana - Integrated Urban Development Project	**Project aim:** To improve the management of city expansion and facilitate urban upgrading activities that will ensure access to housing and basic services for the poor and those under threat of displacement.
Supporting Innovation in Water and Sanitation in Egypt: Clean Water for Integrated Local Development	**Objective:** Improve the living conditions for 1.2 million inhabitants in the defined most vulnerable villages through increased access to clean potable water at homes.
Strategic Urban Plans for Small Cities in Egypt (Component 2: Strategic Urban Plan for Ras El Hekma)	**Project aim:** To operationalize improved city extensions and facilitate urban upgrading activities that will ensure access to housing and basic services by the poor and those under threat of displacement.

Table 20: Key programme/project partners

Project Title	Partners / Stakeholders
Strategic Development in Greater Cairo Region	General Organization for Physical Planning (GOPP); UNDP; Ministry of Foreign Affairs (MOFA); Governorates of Cairo, Giza and Qaluybia
Participatory review of Egyptian planning and related urban development legislation to support sustainable urban development- Egypt	MoHUC; NUCA, GOPP; Ministry of Local Development (MoLD); Local planning authorities; Local government executives and elected councils in Greater Cairo Region, selected small and secondary cities; New town developments; Stakeholders across relevant sectors (academic, legal practice, community and civil society, private sector)
Achieving Sustainable Urban Development Priorities (ASUD) - Egypt	MoHUC; NUCA; GOPP; MoLD; other line Ministries; civil society actors; donor originations
Human Security through Inclusive Socio-economic Development in Upper Egypt	Ministry of Planning and International Cooperation (MiPIC), MoFA; MoLD; Governorate of Minya: Local administration; academia and training institutes; private sector; NGOs; Civil society partners; Community representatives.
Participatory Citywide Urban Upgrading (PCWUU) in Egypt	MoHUC – specifically Informal Settlement Development Fund (ISDF); MoID; Governorates and Local Administration; Line Ministries (Health, Education and Transport); Local communities; CBOs; NGOs; Academia; Private sector; National and international development agencies
Hayana - Integrated Urban Development Project	MoHUC; GOPP; Ministry of Planning, Monitoring and Administrative Reform (MoP), Ministry of Finance (MoF), ISDF; MoLD; Local administrative units; General department for planning and urban development; Economic Housing Fund; Local government executives and elected councils.
Supporting Innovation in Water and Sanitation in Egypt: Clean Water for Integrated Local Development	Holding Company for Water and Wastewater (HCWW); Local companies under the umbrella of MoHUC; MoLD; International and national funding institutions.
Strategic Urban Plans for Small Cities in Egypt (Component 2: Strategic Urban Plan for Ras El Hekma)	MoHUC; NUCA: GOPP); Other line Ministries.

Table 21: Egypt Country Programme: Illustrative housing related projects– Housing Approach elements and timeframe

	Housing Approach Elements					Cross-cutting Issues						
Project Title	**Knowledge**	**Advocacy**	**Policy Advice**	**Technical Assistance/ Capacity building**	**Implementation**	**Gender Equality**	**Youth**	**Human Rights**	**Climate Change**	**Pro-poor, Focus / Vulnerable Group Focus**		
Strategic Development in Greater Cairo Region	✓	✓	✓	✓		✓		✓	✓	✓		
Participatory review of Egyptian planning and related urban development legislation to support sustainable urban development- Egypt	✓	✓	✓	✓		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓		
Achieving Sustainable Urban Development Priorities (ASUD) - Egypt	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓		
Human Security through Inclusive Socio-economic Development in Upper Egypt	✓	✓	✓	✓		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓		
Participatory Citywide Urban Upgrading (PCWUU) in Egypt	✓	✓	✓	✓		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓		
Hayana - Integrated Urban Development Project	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓			
Supporting Innovation in Water and Sanitation in Egypt: Clean Water for Integrated Local Development	✓	✓	✓	✓		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓		
Strategic Urban Plans for Small Cities in Egypt (Component 2: Strategic Urban Plan for Ras El Hekma)	✓	✓	✓	✓		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓		
Year	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019
Plan Period	**MTSIP 2008-2013**						**SP 2014-2019**					
Evaluation Period	**Evaluation Period 2008-2019**											

Consistency with the Housing Approach

Table 21 shows a list of selected case study illustrative programmes and projects that have or are currently being implemented by the Iraq CO in the evaluation period 2008-2019. It also shows the elements of the Housing Approach that they involve, as well as the cross-cutting issues they address and whether or not they have a pro-poor and/or vulnerable group focus. As can be seen, the projects generally include most of the elements of the overall Housing Approach framework in Table 7. The 'Participatory Citywide Urban Upgrading (PCWUU) in Egypt' project, summarily described in Box 4, provides a good example of the Housing Approach supporting governments and civil society to bring about changes in slum improvement and prevention.

Box 4: Participatory Citywide Urban Upgrading (PCWUU) in Egypt

Informality and deteriorated housing conditions are worldwide phenomena that are also taking their specific trends and forms in Egypt's cities and towns. The Participatory Citywide Urban Upgrading (PCWUU) addresses urban upgrading in Egypt through classifying, identifying mapping and urban upgrading areas from a people-centred and city-wide approach. Responding to upgrading strategies, guidelines, tools, and terms of references will then be developed and piloted. This is additionally supported by legislation backstopping and relevant capacity building. Enhanced bottom up urban upgrading approaches and knowledge sharing between Actors

1. The project's expected accomplishments below, and the activities to achieve them, reflect the Housing Approach:
2. National housing and slum upgrading strategies and programmes formulated and implemented.
3. Living conditions improved in the defined most unsafe and informal areas using new citywide urban upgrading strategies and guidelines by 2021.
4. Enhanced bottom up urban upgrading approaches and knowledge sharing between Actors.
5. Improved capacity of institutions that strengthen the capacity of national and local authorities and partners.

Cross-cutting issues

All the projects have or are addressing one or more of the four cross-cutting issues — gender equality, youth, human rights and climate change — as can be seen from Table 21. They do so in a range of ways as the following examples illustrate:

- The 'Human Security through Inclusive Socio-economic Development in Upper Egypt' project has as its goal to improve the human security of vulnerable households, women, youth and children in target communities through inclusive, pro-poor socio-economic development which, if achieved, will also generate the associated impacts of women's empowerment.
- The 'Hayena – Integrated Urban Development Project' explicitly addresses human rights for youth. The project recognizes that there are no youth rights *per se* in Egypt, and is working towards the achievement of human rights for young people — including their right to adequate, affordable housing, and their rights to quality education and (future) decent work.
- The Supporting Innovation in Water and Sanitation in Egypt: Clean Water for Integrated Local Development 'project focuses on guaranteeing the human right to water and sanitation in order to empower vulnerable groups, particularly women and children, through sustainable water provision which will contribute to local development.
- The Supporting Innovation in Water and Sanitation in Egypt: Clean Water for Integrated Local Development" project is advancing environmental friendly solutions especially in the basic services and livelihood components, which is an important step in mitigating expected climate change effects relating to water level fluctuations in the Nile.
- The 'Strategic Urban Plans for Small Cities in Egypt (Component 2: Strategic Urban Plan for Ras El Hekma)' project is raising awareness on enforceable rights for the poor, promoting local communities as a catalyst for change; and calling for their active engagement in development of new cities.

Monitoring and Evaluation (M&E)

The Egypt CO strives to achieve effective implementation and management of projects by focusing on quality control from formulation through implementation to completion of projects, through among other ways:

- Effective application of RBM tools, establishment of management targets and monitoring achievement of results
- Initiation of a project, presentation of the project and getting PAG and necessary approvals, and entering projects into PAAS.

- Substantive and financial monitoring and evaluation of the projects, identification of operational and financial problems, development of solutions.

Resources permitting, these tasks and responsibilities are assigned to a Programme Officer.

Significant achievements and changes

- In alignment with the *Global Housing Strategy to the Year 2025 (GHS 2025)* and the *Arab Strategy for Housing and Sustainable Urban Development 2030*, UN-Habitat supported MOHUUC in the preparation of the *Egypt Housing Profile* in 2016[112] which enabled a comprehensive understanding of the housing sector in Egypt. The profile informed the development of the first National Housing Strategy, with UN-Habitat support, an urgent national priority expressed in the Egyptian Constitution and Vision 2030, which MOHUUC is soon to launch. The Strategy, which will guide the housing sector for the coming 20 years, promotes a major paradigm shift from the government's current role where it is also a provider of housing to that of an enabler, facilitating efficient, dynamic and inclusive housing markets, with an emphasis on affordable housing for all.

  The Housing Profile and National Housing Strategy will inform the National Urban Policy which UN-Habitat is also spearheading. Other knowledge outputs include the National Habitat III report, City Prosperity Report, and various white papers and policy briefs on urban and housing issues.

- The Egypt CO piloted Participatory and Inclusive Land Readjustment (PILaR) — a recently developed land-readjustment localized model —which influenced the revision of the Egyptian land law emphasizing a more active role for local authorities, and provided the basis for the development of a new land readjustment law.

  The pilot also shifted urban upgrading thinking from addressing only deteriorated informal and unsafe areas to also include upgrading of potential brownfield and misused areas within a context specific citywide participatory approach.[113]

- Since the launch of the pilot, UN-Habitat has enhanced land tenure security and supported land readjustment and planned city extension and infill processes, with over 20,000 residents directly benefitting from the land readjustment plans developed in two cities in the Greater Cairo Region.[114]

- The 'Strategic Urban Plans for Small Cities in Egypt' project (October 2006 - July 2015) aimed to improve the capacity of the Government to produce strategic urban plans which respond to local priorities efficiently and effectively. The project focused on three substantive areas, namely shelter, basic urban services and economy. Strategic urban plans that contain priority projects for a total of 2,000,000 inhabitants have been developed in 70 small cities across the country to date.

- The 'Participatory Review of Egyptian Planning and Related Urban Development Legislation to Support Sustainable Urban Development' project established solid foundations of sustainability through: a) strong partnership with national institutions and local authorities; b) channels of communication between different actors; c) methodological innovations and participatory processes; d) replicability of the processes initiated through the project; e) capacity building activities; and f) the mainstreaming of knowledge in other UN-Habitat led projects.

112 UN-Habitat (2016) Egypt Housing Profile.

113 UN-Habitat (2019a) Briefing on the normative and operational activities of UN-Habitat: focus on the Egypt country programme, the Mexico country programme, and the engagement with the Adaptation Fund.

114 UN-Habitat (2019) Annual Progress Report 2019.

- The 'Supporting Innovation in Water and Sanitation in Egypt: Clean Water for Integrated Local Development' project aimed to support improved and equal access to clean water and sanitation through testing and scaling up of innovative solutions; and included extensive capacity building to enable planning, implementing, and sustaining interventions. The pilot intervention provided more than 180,000 vulnerable inhabitants with clean water at their homes for 5% of the traditional cost using environmentally sound and climate change resilient technologies.[115]

- UN-Habitat in Egypt worked in close cooperation with the Regional Refugees Response Plan for Syrian Refugees (3RP) team to support equitable access to housing and basic services and inclusive livelihoods for both receiving and migrating communities.[116]



The new downtown of Amman abdali area, Jordan Amman city.
© Shutterstock/ Ayman alakhras

Jordan

Overview

UN-Habitat first became operational in Jordan in 2005 when it signed a host agreement with the Government of Jordan (GOJ) and established a country office in Amman to promote activities in the area of human settlements and provide technical support to the Government to develop sustainable cities and towns. In July 2013, the UN-Habitat Jordan office began its transition into a programme-oriented office aiming to support the Government to address the impact of the Syrian Crisis in urban areas at the national and local level.[117]

Since the establishment of the Jordan CO, UN-Habitat has supported GOJ to better manage rapid urbanization in line with *Jordan 2025*,[118] the long-term national vision and strategy document, and medium-term national development plans, and in response to the challenges arising from hosting Syrian refugees since 2011. The country programme is thus closely aligned with the national development priorities and focuses on the following action areas: Urban policy and legislation; land and governance; urban planning and design; urban economy and municipal finance; urban basic services; urban research and capacity development; housing and slum upgrading; and risk reduction and rehabilitation. UN-Habitat's technical support has included strengthening capacity of governmental institutions on data collection and analysis, establishing local urban monitoring mechanisms; supporting urban indicators data collection and dissemination of urban data; and providing training on the City Prosperity Index (CPI).[119]

UN-Habitat has also been working in Jordan towards the progressive realization for all persons of the right to adequate housing, by establishing comprehensive housing policies, activating PPPs and enabling low income groups to access adequate housing, primarily through the Jordan Affordable Housing (JAH) Programme.

115 UN-Habitat (2019b) Briefing on the normative and operational activities of UN-Habitat: focus on the Egypt country programme, the Mexico country programme, and the engagement with the Adaptation Fund

116 UN-Habitat (2016) Evaluation of Participatory Review of Egyptian Planning and Related Urban Development Legislation to Support Sustainable Urban Development..

117 http://jo.one.un.org/en/partner/unhabitat/9

118 Government of Jordan (2015) Jordan 2025: A National Vision and Strategy.

119 The CPI is the UN's' global monitoring framework developed to formulate evidence-based policy recommendations for cities. UN-Habitat created the CPI in 2012 to assist the design of effective policy interventions. It also enables cities to identify, evaluate, monitor and report on their progress towards the implementation of the Sustainable Development Agenda 2030 and the NUA. The CPI has been implemented in over 530 cities worldwide to date.

UN-Habitat is implementing the JAH Programme in partnership with the GOJ with the aim of delivering a scaled national affordable housing programme. UN-Habitat has also been working with GOJ to enhance emergency preparedness and crisis management capacities at the national and sub-national levels. To enable it to support GOJ more effectively, UN-Habitat has also been working to strengthen the capacities of the Jordan CO in Amman through specific projects.

Country Programme

The Jordan CO works closely with several governmental institutions, including the Ministry of Public Works and Housing (MOPWH); Ministry of Planning and International Cooperation (MOPIC); Ministry of Municipal Affairs (MoMA); Ministry of Water and Irrigation (MWI); Ministry of Environment; local authorities; regional and international organizations; the private sector; CSOs; and Jordanian and Syrian communities. The CO promotes the implementation of the SDGs, the NUA and UN-Habitat global campaigns and programmes that aim to make cities and human settlements inclusive, safe, resilient and sustainable. The CO provides direct technical support to the Housing and Urban Development Corporation (HUDC), the MOPIC Urban Development Unit. and the Amman Urban Observatory to be more active within the regional and global observatories' network in consultation with Greater Amman Municipality (GAM)[120].

Annex 12 shows the Jordan CO programme and project portfolio, drawn from PAAS, for the evaluation period 2008-2019. As can be seen, many of the programmes and projects fall under more than one of the themes as categorized in PAAS, namely:

- Housing and slum upgrading
- Risk Reduction and Rehabilitation
- Policy and Strategic Planning
- Policy and Strategic Planning
- Urban Basic Services
- Research and Capacity Development
- Management

The projects that fall under management (see Annex 12) are worth noting. The purpose of the two projects is to enable the continuation of the work of the Jordan CO while also strengthening its capacity; and to develop and expand a framework of cooperation between UN-Habitat and GOJ in order to manage and promote UN-Habitat programmes, projects and activities in Jordan. This is critical to enabling the Jordan CO to efficiently and effectively carry out normative and operational activities through a country-specific Housing Approach that can achieve sustainable changes in adequate and affordable housing and poverty reduction — which are also key priorities of the GOJ.

Jordan Country Programme Project Portfolio

The illustrative projects presented in Table 22 and the categorized list of projects listed in PAAS presented in Annex 12 exemplify the various interventions the Jordan Country Programme is implementing towards achieving adequate, affordable housing through a country specific housing approach, adapted from the overall Housing Approach summarily explained in section 1.

The Jordan CO has a relatively small project portfolio compared to the two other case study countries included in this regional assessment. Only one project — Mediterranean City-to-City Migration (MC2CM) Phase II — is listed under the 'Housing and Slum Grading' theme — the JAH Programme is listed under 'Risk Reduction and Rehabilitation'. However, most of the other projects also aim to improve access to adequate housing or address one or more of the seven adequate housing criteria in Annex 1. This point is demonstrated through the illustrative programmes and projects presented in Table 22. As in the case of the Iraq and Egypt Country Programmes, the discrepancies in the thematic classification of projects in PAAS presents a significant limitation for its utility as a planning, monitoring and/or evaluation tool.

120 https://jo.one.un.org/en/partner/united-nations-human-settlements-programme-un-habitat/9

Key programme/project partners

Most of the Jordan Country Programme projects have been developed collaboratively with the relevant national and local partners. Key partners are drawn from ministries, local authorities, municipalities, NGOs, civil society, academia, community-based organizations (CBOs) and other UN agencies. The Jordan Country Profile document states that it provides "*the framework for greater partnerships with all the development players, and is equally considered as a major tool to advocate UN-Habitat's mandate and to guide the implementation process*"[121].

It further affirms the focus on working with central and local government partners to support them to strengthen governance and management in urban areas through: a) Effective urbanization, urban planning, and local governance; b) Improved land management and administration; c) Increased emphasis on pro-poor housing; d) Improved infrastructure and basic services; and e) Strengthened Jordanian resilience in urban protracted crisis.

Table 23 shows the key partners UN-Habitat is working with on the respective programmes and projects. In the JAH Programme, in which the focus is on sustainability and scale, partnerships with the private sector are being to used to achieve sustainable results for Jordanians and Syrian refugees.

Table 22: Housing-related objectives and activities of programmes and projects

Project Title	Goal/Objectives
Jordan Affordable Housing Programme	**Objective:** To construct 30,000 new units over 3 years that will be privately financed, yet available at affordable rent levels for refugee or vulnerable Jordanian family housing.
Jordan Affordable Housing Programme (Swiss Contribution)	
Jordan Affordable Housing Programme (UNHCR Funding)	
Local Emergency management plans	**Sub-EA1:** Enhanced emergency preparedness and crisis management capacities at the sub national and national levels through development of Local Emergency and Risk Management Plans., that include housing.
Improving Sustainability of WASH Service Delivery in Za'atari and Azraq Refugee Camps.	**Output 3:** Refugees have improved access to safe and equitable water through repair, improvement and/or extension of existing water systems
Mediterranean City-to-City Migration (MC2CM) Phase II	**Objective:** To ensure access to adequate housing (including access to basic services), and participatory planning for all citizens, including migrants.
Increasing the Resilience of Displaced Persons to Climate Change-related Water Challenges in Urban Host Settlements in Jordan and Lebanon	**Expected Accomplishment 8:** Shelter and infrastructure delivery in post-crisis response contributes to sustainable, urban reconstruction and recovery

121 UN-Habitat (2016) Country Profile Jordan, p.3.

Table 23: Key programme/project partners

Project Title	'Partners/Stakeholders
Jordan Affordable Housing Programme	Government of Jordan (HUDC, MoMA, Central Bank); Municipalities; Local banks/financial institutions Humanitarian NGOs; Jordanian families (as landlords), Syrian and other refugees and vulnerable Jordanian families (as tenants).
Jordan Affordable Housing Programme (Swiss Contribution)	
Jordan Affordable Housing Programme (UNHCR Funding)	
Local Emergency management plans	MoMA; MOPWH, Governorates and Local Development Units (LDUs); Municipalities, Department of Statistics, Department of Land and Survey, Water Authority/Ministry of Water and Irrigation; target municipalities, professional networks, academia, local NGOs, CBOs, Communities (incl. Jordanians and refugees)
Improving Sustainability of WASH Service Delivery in Za'atari and Azraq Refugee Camps.	Ministry of Water and Irrigation, ACTED, OXFAM, JEN, ACF and World Vision
Mediterranean City-to-City Migration (MC2CM) Phase II	Centre for Migration Policy Development (ICMPD); United Cities and Local Governments (UCLG)
Increasing the Resilience of Displaced Persons to Climate Change-related Water Challenges in Urban Host Settlements in Jordan and Lebanon	Ministry of Environment; Ministry of Water and Irrigation; MOPIC; Line departments in Irbid and Mafraq.

Consistency with the Housing Approach

Table 24 shows a list of illustrative programmes and projects that have or are currently being implemented by the Jordan CO in the evaluation period 2008-2019. It also shows the elements of the Housing Approach that they involve, as well as the cross-cutting issues they address and whether or not they have a pro-poor and/or vulnerable group focus.

The implementation approach and expected accomplishments (EAs) of the Jordan Affordable Housing (JAH) Programme (Phase 1), UN-Habitat's flagship project in Jordan which is summarily described in Box 5, are consistent with the Housing Approach. This consistency is also reflected in the JAH Programme logic framework diagram which is presented in Annex 13, in particular at the outcome level.



Jordanian lifestyle in the center of Amman, Jordan. © Shutterstock/RPBaiao

Table 24: Jordan Country Programme: Illustrative housing related projects– Housing Approach elements and timeframe

	Housing Approach Elements					Cross-cutting Issues						
Project Title	Knowledge	Advocacy	Policy Advice	Technical Assistance/ Capacity building	Implementation	Gender Equality	Youth	Human Rights	Climate Change	Pro-poor; Focus / Vulnerable Group Focus		
Jordan Affordable Housing Programme	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓		✓	✓	✓		
Jordan Affordable Housing Programme (Swiss Contribution)	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓		
Jordan Affordable Housing Programme (UNHCR Funding)	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓		
Local Emergency Management Plans	✓		✓	✓		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓		
Improving Sustainability of WASH Service Delivery in Za'atari and Azraq Refugee Camps.	✓	✓		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓		
Mediterranean City-to-City Migration (MC2CM) Phase II	✓	✓	✓	✓		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓		
Increasing the Resilience of Displaced Persons to Climate Change-related Water Challenges in Urban Host Settlements in Jordan and Lebanon	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓		✓	✓		
Year	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019
Strategic Plan Period	**MTSIP 2008-2013**						**SP 2014-2019**					
Evaluation Period	**Evaluation Period 2008-2019**											

Cross-cutting issues

The Jordan Country Programme mainstreams social inclusion — encompassing human rights; gender; children, youth and older persons; and disability — and crosscutting issues (resilience and safety in all its projects to ensure that no one is left behind and to promote socially and environmentally sustainable cities and communities,[122] with the goal of providing adequate housing for all.

As can been seen from Table 24, all the projects address one or more of the four UN-Habitat cross-cutting issues — gender equality, youth, human rights and climate change — with all having a technical assistance/capacity building component. All the projects also have a pro-poor and/or vulnerable groups focus.

The JAH Programme positively addressed human rights and environmental issues., but while the Programme also targeted women and youth throughout the Programme cycle, only 12.5% of the beneficiaries of the pilot were women[123].

Monitoring and Evaluation (M&E)

As is the case with most of the other COs, the Jordan CO does not utilize PAAS as an M&E tool — this despite most of the project document templates on PAAS having been completed. This shows that the initial steps in the project cycle management process leading to project approval have been duly complied with in accordance with the internal UN-Habitat reporting requirements.

122 UN-Habitat (2020) 2019 Country Brief - Jordan.

123 UN-Habitat (2016) Final Evaluation of the UN-Habitat Jordan Affordable Housing Programme, Phase 1

Box 5: Jordan Affordable Housing (JAH) Programme

UN-Habitat conceptualized the Jordan Affordable Housing (JAH) Programme as an innovative approach to provide affordable housing to Jordanians severely affected by the Syrian refugee crisis and to Syrian refugees. Implemented by UN-Habitat in collaboration with the Ministry of Public Works and Housing (MOPWH), the JAH Programme has the overall goal of providing 30,000 housing units over three years through market mechanisms.

The three Expected Accomplishments of the JAH Programme Phase 1 were: (1) Government, municipalities, financial institutions, housing actors have better information and analysis of the affordable housing demand and supply in Jordan; (2) Framework, rules, procedures and capacity to implement affordable housing programme developed and agreed; and (3) Vulnerable refugees and Jordanian families have increased access to affordable housing.

The JAH Programme concept includes several innovative aspects recognized by most of the stakeholders involved, including: combining humanitarian assistance with development; better housing solutions for refugees; reducing housing unit costs through smaller plot sizes and smaller dwellings constructed incrementally; and no subsidies in the programme, making it sustainable and scalable.

The following results are anticipated:10,000 new affordable housing units produced annually through the private sector without subsidy; 5,150 affordable rental units supplied to the market and occupied by 27,800 Syrian refugees each year; and 7,360 new jobs created in the construction sector.

The primary stakeholders of this programme are Jordanian families as owners and, potentially, landlords if they choose to rent a unit, local banks (as providers of housing finance) and developers. Vulnerable Jordanian and Syrian families will be beneficiaries as tenants.

The "value added" of the JAH programme is that it will bring all key players together, allowing them to move collectively into a "new market" offering affordable housing with support from a dedicated team of experts to help unblock obstacles, address market delays, assure quality, transparency and fairness and assist with the arrangement of borrower financing to purchase the units.

In the short-term, the project will help meet the shelter needs of refugees and vulnerable Jordanian families. Increased housing supply will mean that rent prices are likely to remain stable. It will also catalyse increased economic activity and generate jobs in a construction sector that is a significant source of informal employment for refugee

Source: UN-Habitat Global Activities Report 2017

In the JAH Programme Phase 1, the governance, monitoring and reporting was overseen by a Steering Committee comprising 19 members representing all the key stakeholder groups and chaired by the MoPWH. Stakeholders were involved at both the national and local levels in all the stages of the programme cycle from design to implementation and monitoring. As a result, the Programme is owned by the majority of the stakeholders, as affirmed by the final evaluation of Phase 1 of the JAH Programme, and the sustainability prospects of the programme have been enhanced.

Significant achievements and changes

- The JAH Programme Phase 1 constructed a total of 14 demonstration units at sites in four cities (Amman, Dhlei,l Karak and Ramtha) that included several innovative aspects: eg, combining humanitarian assistance with development; better housing solutions for refugees; reduction of costs of housing units through smaller plots size and smaller dwellings constructed incrementally; and no or minimum subsidies in the programme, making it sustainable and scalable.

- An inter-agency Shelter and Settlement Strategy was developed in 2015 in light of the transitioning of the Syrian refugee response towards a development and resilience approach. UN-Habitat is supporting the government to adopt the strategy of applying a predominantly private sector funded solution to increase the resilience of the housing sector.

- 15,000 residents in Al-Ghweirieh Neighbourhood are enjoying improved access to inclusive and safe public space in Zarqa Municipality. The neighbourhood is one of the most heavily populated and densely constructed in Amman, hosting about 72,121 Syrian refugees, and suffering from severely dilapidated housing conditions, overcrowded and poor shared infrastructure, and a huge shortage of women and youth-friendly open spaces and parks.



Amman, Jordan. © Shutterstock/ Anton_Ivanov

- 115,000 Syrian refugees (including women, men, youth and children) are enjoying improved access to sustainable WASH (water, sanitation and hygiene) services in Za'atari and Azraq Camps in Mafraq and Zarqa governorates respectively— with populations of 79,979 and 53,838 respectively in 2016 [124] — through UN-Habitat-supported operational demonstration projects

- In 2018, UN-Habitat initiated the development of a National Urban Policy for Jordan, to support MOMA establish a coordination framework to define a national vision for the country's urban future, promote institutional collaboration and policy coherence among all urban stakeholders, and catalyse more sustainable practices. The workshop helped build an understanding of the importance of a NUP and mobilized stakeholder participation in the diagnosis phase.[125]

Summary Comparative Analysis

UN-Habitat has been working in the three Arab States region case study countries for varying periods of time — in Iraq since 1996; and in Egypt and Jordan since 2005. The COs differ substantially in terms of staff size and composition; budget size and composition; programme/ project portfolio size and composition; and M&E and reporting capacity.

This is largely because of the contextual differences between the three countries, as explained above. However, in all three countries, a large proportion of the projects in the respective country portfolios aim to promote the full and progressive realization of the right to adequate housing and to improve the housing conditions of poor and vulnerable households through the Housing Approach.

The contextual differences between the three countries have significantly influenced the evolution of the country programmes and the Housing Approach in the respective countries in terms of focus and the normative and operational elements that are prioritized. This is reflected in the respective tables on 'Housing related programmes/ projects – Housing Approach elements and timeframe' — i.e., Table 18, Table 21 and Table 24. The tables indicate which normative and operational elements of the Housing Approach projects that have or are being implemented in the respective countries include, and thus the degree to which they are consistent with the Housing Approach.

124 WASH Sector Gender Focal Points (2016) Inter-Agency Task Force (IATF) WASH Sector Gender Analysis in Za'atari and Azraq Refugee Camp.

125 UN-Habitat (2019) Country Activities Report 2019: Supporting to the New Urban Agenda





PART 3 – KEY FINDINGS, LESSONS LEARNED AND RECOMMENDATIONS

KEY FINDINGS

Evaluations of UN-Habitat programmes and projects are expected to conform to United Nations Evaluation Group (UNEG) norms and standards for evaluation[126], which are in line with the Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development/Development Assistance Committee (OECD/DAC) criteria for evaluation. The five standard OECD/DAC evaluation criteria are: relevance, effectiveness, efficiency, sustainability and impact. However, like the main overall evaluation, this regional and country case study evaluation applies only three of the criteria — relevance, impact and sustainability — as these were considered the most pertinent to address the research questions (see Annex 3) in the context of the limitations of the evaluation.[127] However, as explained in section 2, the evaluation also employed a matrix assessing coverage of the Housing Approach framework, the overall UN-Habitat and a country specific TOC, and VAA as supplementary evaluative frameworks.

In addition to the comprehensive document review, the evaluation conducted face-to-face interviews with key UN-Habitat headquarters staff in Nairobi and remote interviews with RO and CO staff. A questionnaire survey was also distributed to 50 COs through the respective ROs. Fifteen (15) COs responded to the questionnaire, including five in the Arab States region, namely: Egypt, Iraq, Lebanon, State of Palestine and Saudi Arabia. The questionnaire asked respondents to, among other things, rate the Housing Approach against specific criteria, including relevance, outcomes, impact and value added. The responses of the five countries are summarily presented in Annex 16.

Consistency of the Regional and Country Strategies, Programmes and Projects with the Housing Approach

The regional and country analyses presented in this report are aimed to provide a better understanding of how UN-Habitat's Housing Approach is implemented in different regions and countries, and how effectively a global approach can be applied in significantly different contexts.

However, as explained in section 1, there is no precise, consistent and shared definition of the 'Housing Approach' used by UN-Habitat, nor has any explicit Housing Approach framework or strategic guidance been developed by UN-Habitat. The evaluation team consequently developed a conceptual framework that understands the Housing Approach as an organizational strategy that provides a systematic, yet flexible approach to address adequate housing issues encompassing a core strategy of influencing housing policy to improve housing practice. This conceptualization is informed by the Housing Approach in the MTSIP 2008-2013, SP 2014-2019, the H@C approach and the NUA, as well as a comprehensive review and analysis of UN-Habitat's normative and operational activities, and key KIIs with staff at UN-Habitat headquarters in Nairobi, and in the ROs and COs.

UN-Habitat has operationalized the Housing Approach through the five fundamental normative and operational elements in Table 25. However, as also clarified in section 1, application of the Housing Approach does not always involve all the five elements — it varies across the different levels (global, regional and national/local); and from region to region, country to country, and project to project.

126 UNEG (2016) Norms and Standards for Evaluation.

127 The evaluation limitations are described in detail in the main report — but in sum, the scope and rigour of the evaluation was constrained by the limitations on the kinds and availability of data required for the analysis.

Table 25: Fundamental Elements of the Housing Approach

Element	Activity
Knowledge	Normative
Advocacy	Normative
Policy Advice	Normative
Technical Assistance/Capacity building	Normative/Operational
Implementation	Operational

Table 26: Overall Rating of the Regional and Country Strategies and Programmes – Consistency/Relevance/Value Added

Elements of the Housing Approach / Key issues	Rating				
	1	2	3	4	5
Consistency off Regional Programme With The Housing Approach Framework					✓
Knowledge Management				✓	
Advocacy				✓	
Policy Advice				✓	
Technical assistance/Capacity building					✓
Implementation				✓	
Cross-cutting issues					✓
Consistency with policies of country partners					✓
Relevance of global frameworks					✓
Value-added of the Country Programme/Housing Approach					✓

Rating code: 1 = None relevance; 2 = Low; 3 = Moderately; 4 = High; 5 = Very High

Table 26 summarizes the evaluation's overall assessment of the consistency of the regional and country strategies and programmes with the overall Housing Approach framework in Table 25, as well as relevance and value added. The ratings are based on the document review, the regional and three country case studies analyses; the responses to the CO questionnaire survey; and face-to-face and remote interviews with UN-Habitat headquarters, RO and CO staff. The basis for the ratings is elaborated in the following sections.

The ROAS strategic approach, as explained in section 5.1, aims to operationalize the NUA and develop catalytic partnerships towards the achievement of sustainable urban development through knowledge management; increased policy dialogue and advocacy; enhanced technical assistance and capacity building; mobilization of additional funding; backstopping programme execution; and dissemination of innovations.

This aim and approach is largely consistent with the overall UN-Habitat Housing Approach framework, and can be seen as constituting the 'Arab region 'Housing Approach'.

The review of the three case study Country Programmes — Iraq, Egypt and Jordan — and their respective project portfolios shows great consistency with both the overall Housing Approach framework, as well as the 'Arab region Housing Approach' in terms of the normative and operational activities indicated in the reports and explained during the interviews. This is also seen in the summary assessments presented in Table 18, Table 21 and Table 24 in sections 6.1, 6.2 and 6.3 respectively showing 'Illustrative housing related projects - Housing Approach elements and timeframe' for Iraq, Egypt and Jordan respectively.

As can be seen, most of the projects in the three countries are consistent with the Housing Approach framework in terms of the elements they incorporate, albeit to varying degrees. A review of the HCPDs, country programmes and project portfolios of the three other countries in the Arab region that responded to the CO questionnaire survey — Lebanon, Palestine and Saudi Arabi — also shows consistency with the Housing Approach, although to varying degrees because of the size of the respective project portfolio in PAAS (Lebanon – 34 projects; Palestine – 30 projects; Saudi Arabia – 7 projects).

As in the case of the other regions, the degree of consistency depends to a large extent on whether the programmes and projects are designed and led by UN-Habitat headquarters and/or the RO, or are demand driven by national and local governments and housing stakeholders. In the case of the former, global and regional, multi-country programmes led by UN-Habitat headquarters, such as 'Achieving Sustainable Urban Development Priorities (ASUD)'[128] and 'SDG Climate Facility: Climate Action for Human Security'[129], involve all the normative and operational elements of the Housing Approach framework. But in the case of the national and local demand driven projects, such as the post-crisis housing and basic urban services reconstruction and rehabilitation interventions in Iraq, Jordan, Lebanon, Palestine and Sudan, the projects may initially involve only the capacity building and implementation support elements of the Housing Approach with little attention paid to normative activities. But in most cases they will be implemented with an ultimate aim of influencing policy, strategies and practice through on-the-ground, real-time demonstration projects.

While COs may not be conscientiously following the 'Housing Approach' in the design and implementation of projects, they follow principles that are consistent with the Housing Approach, as affirmed in interviews with ROs during the inception phase of the evaluation. All the programmes have a pro-poor/vulnerable group focus, and all address one or more of the UN-Habitat cross cutting issues: gender equality, youth, human rights and climate change.

Knowledge

UN-Habitat's Housing Approach in the MTSIP 2008-2013, as summarized in the TOR, relied on three broad strategies to achieve the EAs under FA3 on access to land and housing for all: (1) Knowledge management and advocacy, capacity building at global, regional and national levels; and supporting implementation at the country and local levels; (2) Partnerships with external organizations, international housing experts, and collaboration with other UN-Habitat sub-programmes, particularly GLTN; and (3) Implementation of programmes and projects towards improving and promoting more productive land and housing in partnership with governments and other HAPs.

In the Housing Approach articulated in the SP 2014-2019, support at the country and local level includes production of country and local level urban knowledge and information on best practices and lessons learned, and on fit-for-purpose policies, programmes and institutional arrangements for different urban contexts. It also includes establishment of urban platforms — ie, local urban observatories (LUOs) — to collect and analyse urban data against indicators.

Consistent with the overall Housing Approach, the ROAS RSP accords high priority to improving national and local governments and other HAPs' knowledge and awareness on land related policy, institutional and technical frameworks, tools and approaches to increase security of tenure for groups in vulnerable situations (FA1–EA2.2). But surprisingly, the RSP accords 'Improved knowledge on sustainable urbanisation issues at local, national and global levels' (FA6-EA2) and 'Increased dissemination and awareness of knowledge on sustainable urbanisation issues' (FA6-EA2.1) only medium priority. However, the review of the three case study country programme/project portfolios (presented in Annex 7, Annex 11 and Annex 12) shows that this is not, in fact, the case, with the latter also being given high priority.

128 ASUD promotes an integrated approach to planning by (i) linking distinct focus areas within projects and (ii) promoting coherence between UN-Habitat's normative and operational work. Egypt was one of the five priority countries selected for the global ASUD programme phase 1, with the other four being Colombia Mozambique, Rwanda and the Philippines.

129 The programme is focusing on the following countries to develop local capacity, deploy integrated solutions and support scaleup of climate financing: Iraq, Jordan, Lebanon, Palestinian Territories, Syria and Yemen (solar solutions); and Iraq, Egypt and Tunisia (climate fragility).

Table 18, Table 21 and Table 24, which present a summary assessment of the consistency of the project portfolios of, respectively, Iraq, Egypt and Jordan with the UN-Habitat Housing Approach, show that most of projects, including the national demand-driven operational implementation projects (eg, the 'shelter projects' in Iraq) have a knowledge management component. This is similarly so for the three other COs in the Arab States region that responded to the questionnaire, namely Lebanon, Palestine and Saudi Arabia.

Advocacy

'Effective advocacy, monitoring, and partnership' was one of the six mutual reinforcing FAs in the MTSIP 2008-2013, while the SP 2014-2019 similarly emphasized the catalytic role of UN-Habitat in global monitoring, assessment and advocacy. Evidence-based advocacy that draws on UN-Habitat's normative knowledge production activities is a key element of the Housing Approach as it is critical to influencing housing policy and practice reform. Indeed, the *UN-Habitat Knowledge Strategy* asserts that: "*In addition to RBM KM's [Knowledge Management's] most immediate impact will be felt in FA1 — advocacy, monitoring and partnerships*".[130]

In the RSP, FA7-EA2.1 focuses on knowledge dissemination and awareness, whereby UN-Habitat will disseminate knowledge and raise awareness on sustainable urbanization issues through regional and country forums and events, such as UN-Habitat advocacy events, the Arab Ministerial Forum for Housing and Urban Development (AMFHUD) and national urban forums. UN-Habitat will also support the establishment of National Urban Campaigns in the countries of the region to raise awareness on urbanisation challenges and best practices.

The review of the project portfolios of the three case study countries for consistency with the overall Housing Approach framework presented in Table 18, Table 21 and Table 24 reveals that most of projects include advocacy activities, as do the Lebanon, Palestine and Saudi Arabia COs' projects.

Policy advice

The SP 2014-2019 mission statement includes that UN-Habitat will support governments and local authorities to respond positively to the challenges and opportunities of urbanization "*by providing normative or policy advice and technical assistance…*" Indeed, policy advice is a key component of UN-Habitat's Housing Approach, with its core objective being to achieve housing reforms.

UN-Habitat provides normative and policy advice on transforming cities and other human settlements into inclusive and sustainable centres of economic growth, social progress, environmental stewardship and human safety on the basis that this is only achievable if there is full gender equality and women and youth are empowered.[131]

At the national level, the *Proposed work programme and budget for the biennium 2018–2019*[132] reiterates that UN-Habitat will support the development of national urban policy frameworks for sustainable urbanization and human settlements through the following main strategies: (a) developing tools, norms and standards based on best practices; (b) undertaking advocacy efforts to raise awareness of sustainable urbanization issues; (c) providing evidence-based policy advice; building capacity; implementing demonstration projects that can evolve to scale; and (d) providing assistance to Governments, local authorities and other urban and housing stakeholders. This is very much in line with UN-Habitat's Housing Approach.

The ROAS RSP affirms that UN-Habitat will promote and support land reform processes by providing land policy advisory services and support the implementation of land tools, such as the Land Information Systems and Land Readjustment; and disseminate and share lessons learned will within the Arab region and feed into normative work at UN-Habitat headquarters level.

130 UN-Habitat (2010) UN-Habitat Knowledge Strategy: Building Knowledge Based Organization.

131 UN-Habitat (2015) UN-Habitat Policy and Plan for Gender Equality and the Empowerment of Women in Urban Development and Human Settlements 2014-2019</author></authors></contributors><titles><title>UN-Habitat Policy and Plan for Gender Equality and the Empowerment of Women in Urban Development and Human Settlements 2014-2019</title></titles><dates><year>2015</year></dates><pub-location>Nairobi</pub-location><publisher>United Nations Human Settlements Programme (UN-Habitat

132 UN-Habitat (2017) Proposed work programme and budget for the biennium 2018–2019: Report of the Executive Director.

The majority of the projects in the three case study countries include the provision of evidence based policy advice to national and local governments, as Table 18, Table 21 and Table 24 show, to address policy deficiencies and institutional capacity needs. This is likewise the case for Lebanon, Palestine and Saudi Arabia.

Technical assistance/Capacity building

A key issue under Objective 1 of the MTSIP Action Plan of enabling UN-Habitat to play a leadership and catalytic role in promoting sustainable urbanization in at least 30 countries by 2013 by preparing and implementing an enhanced normative and operational framework (ENOF) was achieving systemic change and results at scale through capacity building and technical assistance.

Capacity building at global, regional and national levels; and supporting implementation at the country and local levels were key elements of the Housing Approach in the MTSIP; while the Housing Approach in the SP 2014-2019 also emphasized building the capacity of slum communities to advocate on their own behalf and partner with national and local authorities in implementing interventions to improve access to adequate housing and living standards in slums.

In the ROAS RSP, FA 5 is 'Housing and slum upgrading' with EA2.2 aiming at the formulation and implementation of national housing and slum upgrading strategies and programmes by enhancing awareness and capacity of housing stakeholders on Housing Policy and the Global Housing Strategy. UN-Habitat has provided technical assistance towards this end through several programmes and projects, such as the JAH Programme in Jordan and citywide and national slum upgrading strategies and programmes in Iraq, Kuwait and Saudi Arabia, as shown in Table 28 and Annex 14.

Implementation

Operational implementation support to pro-poor housing and slum upgrading interventions, including demonstration and pilot projects, is one of the fundamental elements of the Housing Approach (Table 7). In the ROAS RSP, which as explained in section 5.1.2 can be considered to represent the Arab Region Housing Approach, EA 2.1 focuses on urban land and states that UN-Habitat will support national and local governments to develop new mechanisms to increase security of tenure for vulnerable groups, particularly IDPs, and refugees, both in camps and urban extensions, and slum dwellers through implemented upgrading slum programmes.

EA2.2 likewise focuses on urban land and states that ROAS in partnership with GLTN will promote and support land reform processes by providing land policy advisory services as well as training and capacity development. In addition, UN-Habitat will support governments and key HAPs in implementing security of tenure programmes and various land tools, such as the Land Information Systems and Participatory and Inclusive Land Readjustment (PILaR).

Cross-cutting issues

The Housing Approach in the MTSIP FA 3 was based on three crosscutting strategies: 1) Knowledge management and advocacy; 2) Capacity-building at the global and regional levels; and, 3) Supporting implementation at the country/local level; and issues of gender, the youth and the elderly, were to be mainstreamed throughout the approach. However, the SP introduced four different cross-cutting issues that were to be systematically reflected in all substantive focus areas: 1) Gender; 2) Youth; 3) Climate change; and 4) Human rights, which were formalised in 2013.

The overall goal of mainstreaming the cross-cutting issues is to strengthen programmatic synergies while ensuring that project outcomes reach all targeted beneficiaries, particularly persons in vulnerable situations[133]. Effective integration of cross-cutting issues is expected to enable the replication and upscaling of programmes and projects[134], which is essential for impact to be achieved, especially in the case of the Housing Approach.

The RSP asserts that the four cross-cutting issues of gender, youth, human rights and climate change, will be mainstreamed into ROAS programmes and projects utilizing UN-Habitat's *Cross-Cutting Markers.* According to the UN-Habitat Cross-Cutting Report 2017,

> **"The current system has proven successful and has put Cross-Cutting Issues at the forefront of UN-Habitat project development. Using this strong foundation, there are possibilities to further improve and institutionalise mainstreaming efforts, in order to ensure the long-term impacts and sustainability of projects."** [135]

The review of the project portfolios of the three case study countries for consistency with the overall Housing Approach framework presented in Table 18, Table 21 and Table 24 shows that all the projects address two or more of the cross-cutting issues.

Partnerships

FA 1 1 in the MTSIP 2008-2013 was 'Effective advocacy, monitoring, and partnership'. A key objective was thus for UN-Habitat to play an effective catalytic role in partnership with other UN agencies and HAPs. As explained above, a main aim of the ROAS strategic approach is to operationalize catalytic partnerships. The RSP thus identifies a range of partners in the elaboration of the national and regional implementation mechanisms, including UN partners; intergovernmental organizations outside the UN system, especially the LAS; and other HAPs.[136]

Indeed, partnership formation and working, and resource mobilization and fundraising are key strengths of UN-Habitat on which it is heavily reliant for both its normative and operational work.

One of the three broad strategies to achieve the EAs in UN-Habitat's Housing Approach in the MTSIP 2008-2013 was: 'Programmes and projects towards improving and promoting more productive land and housing policies were implemented in partnership with governments and other Habitat Agenda Partners'.

In general, projects directly meet priority national and local needs and support country programmes, while project clusters and country programmes contribute to policy advice and UN-Habitat's normative agendas and objectives. UN-Habitat is aiming to enhance the quality of its programming through a new generation of HCPDs that are in line with the transformations in its global agenda, while remining context specific and responsive to local needs and partnerships[137].

The review of the project portfolios of the three case study countries for consistency with the overall Housing Approach framework presented in Table 18, Table 21 and Table 24 on 'Housing related programmes/ projects – Housing Approach elements and timeframe' reveals that most of the operational implementation projects are demand-driven.

As the three country case studies show through Table 17, Table 20 and Table 23, UN-Habitat has worked with not only national and local government partners, but also a range of other housing stakeholders and UN agencies in implementing projects through the Housing Approach. The review of the project portfolios of the other COs in the region show this to be the case in those countries too.

133 Children, youth, elderly, persons with disabilities, displaced persons and migrants, slum dwellers, urban poor, indigenous peoples, homeless persons, minorities, people living with HIV/AIDS, and in particular women in these categories.

134 UN-Habitat (2015) UN-Habitat Cross-cutting Issues Progress Report 2015.

135 UN-Habitat (2017) UN-Habitat Cross-cutting Issues Progress Report 2017, p.106.

136 Including NGOs, and in particular the Arab Town Organization (ATO), Arab Urban Development Institute (AUDI) and United Cities and Local Governments – Middle East and West Asia Section (UCLG-MEWA).

137 UN-Habitat (2017) UN-Habitat Global Activities Report 2017: Strengthening partnerships in support of the New Urban Agenda and the Sustainable Development Goals

Relevance of the Regional and Country Programmes and Housing Approach to national and local priorities

Relevance of global frameworks to the regional and country contexts

The housing related global frameworks —the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), in particular SDG Target 11.1; New Urban Agenda (NUA); Housing at the Centre (H@C) approach; and Global Housing Strategy to the Year 2025 (GHS 2025) — are relevant to regional and country contexts at multiple levels, and inform the regional and country Housing Approach in several ways.

UN-Habitat is the custodian of SDG 11: *Make cities and human settlements inclusive, safe, resilient and sustainable*; and also, very importantly, of SDG 11 Target 1: *"by 2030, ensure access for all to adequate, safe and affordable housing and basic services and upgrade slums"*. In addition, as the UN agency mandated to promote adequate housing for all and sustainable urbanization, UN-Habitat has a key role to play in the implementation, follow-up to and review of the NUA, which puts housing at the centre of sustainable urban development, in collaboration with other UN entities.

The ROAS RSP represents the regional implementation mechanism for SDG 11 as well as a guide for the implementation of the NUA in the region. The alignment of the RSP with the LAS *Arab Strategy for Housing and Sustainable Urban Development 2030* and the SP 2014-2019 against the framework of the SDGs was aimed to facilitate collaborative efforts by national governments (LAS member states), national and regional development partners and UN-Habitat, to achieve a common vision that enhances the viability of cities and housing to foster sustainable economic social and environmental development, and to serve as engines of growth.

UN-Habitat's work in the Arab Region cuts across eight of the 17 SDGs, with the main focus being on SDG 11 which accounts for 80% of the expenditures and 75% of staff time. However, UN-Habitat's work also contributes to increasing sustainable access to safe water and improved sanitation; achieving gender equality; and eliminating poverty.

UN-Habitat further assists in combating climate change and its impacts and strengthening global partnerships for achieving the SDGs[138].

The national planning frameworks and development plans of all of the three regional case study countries — Iraq, Egypt and Jordan— are guided by various global frameworks. For example, the *Iraq Vision 2030* reflects the "5 Ps" that shape the SDGs (People, Planet, Prosperity, Peace and Partnerships, and the *Strategy for the Reduction of Poverty in Iraq 2018-2022* specifically adopted the SDGs as a general framework. Egypt's *Sustainable Development Strategy: Egypt Vision 2030* is in line with SDGs, while *Jordan 2025* and the EDP 2016-2019 are aligned with the SDGs and 2030 Agenda.

The three case study country programmes aim to promote the implementation of the SDGs and the NUA, and UN-Habitat global campaigns and programmes that aim to make cities and human settlements inclusive, safe, resilient and sustainable, and promote adequate and affordable housing.

Consistency of the Housing Approach with partners' priorities and approaches

At the regional level, ROAS has successfully established a high-level constituency of regional partners that have similar priorities to those addressed by the Housing Approach. A prime example is the Arab Ministerial Forum for Housing and Urban Development (AMFHUD) launched in 2015, which comprises Ministers from LAS member states with a housing and urban development mandate. The first AMFHUD, organized by UN-Habitat, LAS and Egypt's MOHUUC and held in Cairo, Egypt in December 2015, brought together 15 high level ministerial delegations, representatives of regional and national organisations, private sector as well as civil society from the region. The Forum adopted the *Cairo Declaration on Housing and Sustainable Urban Development*[139] which calls on Arab countries to formulate national plans to achieve the SDGs and confirms the region's commitment to the NUA.

138 UN-Habitat (2018) UN-Habitat Regional Office for Arab States: Overview 2018.

139 AMFHUD (2015) Cairo Declaration On Housing, and Sustainable Urban Development Cairo - Egypt, 20 – 22 December 2015.

Estimating the impact of the Housing Approach

Table 27. Estimated Impact of the Reginal and Country Housing Approach in the Arab States region

Element of the Housing Approach	1	2	3	4	5
Knowledge Management					✓
Advocacy				✓	
Policy Advice				✓	
Technical assistance Capacity building				✓	
Implementation				✓	

Knowledge

UN-Habitat's vision, as stated in the *UN-Habitat Knowledge Strategy*, is to be *"the premier reference [centre] for information, knowledge and strategic learning about sustainable urbanization"*[140]. To achieve this, as explained in the strategy, will require, among other things, leveraging knowledge gained from operational activities to normative dialogue and advocacy. ROAS and the COs in the Arab States region have managed to do this with considerable success and impact as summarily shown below and in Table 28.

UN-Habitat has provided an analysis of national housing markets through its normative work on Housing Profiles in Egypt, Iraq, Palestine and Tunisia, which have identified the needed reforms to enable a well-functioning housing sector to achieve the right to adequate housing for all. The National Housing Profile is the most widely produced knowledge product. Since 2008, profile have been published for a total of 30 countries across all the regions, as Annex 14 shows. Of this number, six are Arab States countries, as shown in Annex 15. Through the housing profiles described above, the Housing Approach has influenced national housing policies, strategies, capacity development, programmes, and resource allocation to address adequate and affordable housing needs. Housing profiles have also triggered informed policy reviews and actions in other areas of the housing sector, including improving land registration systems and urban infrastructure and services.

City and Neighbourhood Profiling[141] are among the main tools that UN-Habitat uses to address access to adequate, safe and affordable housing and basic services in conflict areas in the Arab States region. City and neighbourhood profiling work has been undertaken in Iraq, Lebanon, Libya, Syria and Yemen (six cities), and used to produce damage assessments and recommend priority actions. Policies, plans and designs for compact, integrated and connected cities and neighbourhoods are also a focus of city and neighbourhood profiling.

In Iraq, UN-Habitat undertook a joint study with the World Bank on PPP opportunities to make serviced land available for low-income housing and prevent the sprawl of new informal settlements. In line with the 'twin-track approach',[142] the US government provided USD3 million to establish a normative framework and implementation of three pilot slum upgrading projects in Bagdad, using land tools that enable recovery of occupied public land while minimizing displacement of people.[143]

In Jordan, the CO has organized knowledge sharing conferences, seminars and workshops to advance the urban and housing agendas in the region, and has translated UN-Habitat flagship reports and periodicals into Arabic and disseminated them throughout the region, thereby widening the reach and hence potential impact of the knowledge management and sharing.

140 UN-Habitat (2010) UN-Habitat Knowledge Strategy: Building Knowledge Based Organization.

141 Neighbourhood profiles are reports containing original spatialized data and analysis, generated within an area-based framework, and synthesized to respond to the evidence needs of sector specialists, multisector practitioners, and local authorities.

142 UN-Habitat advocates for a 'twin track' strategy: upgrading existing informal settlements while also ensuring an adequate supply of affordable and suitably located new land and housing.

143 UN-Habitat (2011) Annual Progress Report 2011: Implementation of the Medium-Term Strategic and Institutional Plan (MTSIP) (2008 - 2013)

In Lebanon, the neighbourhood profiling is aimed to improve Syrian refugees and host communities' living conditions through holistic neighbourhood upgrading interventions.[144] The formulation and implementation of the national housing, slum upgrading and prevention strategies and programmes integrating the GHS 2025 vision and principles is considered part of the neighbourhood profiling programme[145]. The Lebanon Country Programme planned to publish over 30 neighbourhood profiles and strategies by 2019, with several currently available on the UN-Habitat website[146].

There has been improved knowledge in the Arab States of the importance of NUPs following an Assessment Report on National Urban Policies for five countries (Egypt, Jordan, Morocco, Saudi Arabia and Sudan). The process involved a team of UN-Habitat experts working with the national and local governments.[147]

In line with the Housing Approach in the SP 2015, 2019, UN-Habitat has supported the establishment national urban observatories (NUOs) and local urban observatories (LUOs) in a number of countries in the Arab region (including Egypt, Saudi Arabia, Sudan and Tunisia). NUOS and LUOs serve to strengthen the evidence base through rigorous data collection by engaging a range of stakeholders with a variety of skills and knowledge sets in the development of SMART (Specific, Measurable, Attainable, Relevant, Time-bound) indicators.[148]

In 2018, UN-Habitat published the first normative guide on *Pro-Poor Climate Action in Informal Settlements*,[149] intended to be the first of a series of knowledge resources for building resilience while also addressing the challenges of informality.

Policy Advice

At the regional level, ROAS most notably provided policy advisory inputs to guide the LAS in the formulation of the *Arab Strategy for Housing and Sustainable Urban Development 2030*, the framework for joint Arab action in housing and sustainable urban development, and an important basis for strengthening regional cooperation.

At the request of LAS member countries, ROAS has:

- Promoted knowledge and information exchange, and capacity building at all levels to enhance regional, national and local level interventions in urban governance.
- Supported formulation and development of integrated enabling policies and strategies for housing, land tenure, basic services provision and economic opportunities.
- Supported implementation of new policies and strategies to facilitate the interrelated processes of policy development, capacity building and implementation to ensure coherence and synergy.

This support is consistent with the UN-Habitat Housing Approach. In addition, ROAS addresses the specific contexts of each country, and provides appropriate technical support for the implementation of the objectives of the strategy.

ROAS participates regularly in the Regional UNDG Arab States meetings. The UNDG Arab States team works collaboratively to provide UNCTs with strategic guidance and policy advice, and coherent, coordinated and timely technical support through the established inter-agency Quality Support and Assurance mechanism. ROAS provides inputs on urbanization and housing trends and challenges in the region, as affirmed in the RSP.

Housing

The GHS 2025 is a collaborative movement that advocates for a radical paradigm shift in housing theory and practice to achieve the full and progressive realization of the right to adequate housing through the development of enabling, inclusive and sustainable national housing policies and strategies. It has created a global network of knowledge and practice sharing with respect to current global housing challenges *vis-a-vis* the formulation of the NUA. UN-Habitat has provided policy advisory services based on the GHS 2925 to several countries in the region, including Iraq, Egypt, Jordan, Bahrain, Kuwait and Saudi Arabia

144 UN-Habitat (2016) Country Profile Lebanon

145 https://unhabitat.org/lebanon-housing-and-slum-upgrading.

146 See https://unhabitat.org/lebanon.

147 UN-Habitat (2016) Annual Progress Report 2015: Implementation of the Strategic Plan (2014 - 2019)</author></authors></contributors><titles><title>Annual Progress Report 2015: Implementation of the Strategic Plan (2014 - 2019

148 UN-Habitat (2015) A Guide to Setting up an Urban Observatory

149 UN-Habitat (2018) Pro-Poor Climate Action in Informal Settlements

UN-Habitat, through ROAS and the respective COs, has supported several countries in the Arab States region to formulate improved housing policies, strategies or programmes, by raising knowledge and awareness; enhancing capacities and skills; and providing technical assistance in the development and implementation of policies and strategies. They include Egypt, Iraq, Lebanon, Palestine, Saudi Arabia and Sudan, as shown in Annex 15. The improved housing policies, strategies and programmes are in line with the principles of the GHS 2025 and the promotion of the realization of the right to adequate housing as a component of the right to an adequate standard of living.

The 'Mediterranean City-To-City Migration (MC2CM) Phase II' project — which is being implemented in Jordan, Lebanon, Morocco and Tunisia — aims to, among other things, provide inputs to international policy processes such as local implementation of the SDGs, NUA and the Global Migration Compact. It also aims to promote a HRBA through targeted advocacy, including the H@C approach which places people at the forefront of sustainable and inclusive urban development, encouraging housing initiatives for all income groups.

Slum upgrading and prevention

UN-Habitat advises Member States on how to create enabling conditions for citywide slum upgrading using a multilevel intervention strategy: national, municipal and at the level of individual slums and informal settlements.

As indicated in the RSP, UN-Habitat has technically supported the diagnosis of housing related challenges at national level, and advised national governments and subnational entities on development and implementation of policies, strategies and pro-poor housing programmes to address slums and informal settlements at scale. In addition, drawing on experience and learning from Morocco and Tunisia, it has initiated city-wide and national programmes to address informal settlements. Furthermore, UN-Habitat has established a platform for collaboration and sharing of experience between countries on slum and informal settlements upgrading.

UN-Habitat has implemented a number of pilot slum upgrading initiatives, such as in Kurani Ainkawa, Erbil, which reportedly benefited 2,000 households. Learning from such initiatives, UN-Habitat has supported citywide and national slum upgrading programmes in Iraq, Kuwait and Saudi Arabia, as shown in Annex 14. Morocco and Palestine have also implemented slum upgrading and prevention interventions aligned to GHS vision and principles.

UN-Habitat is also playing a significant operational role in addressing shelter and housing needs in crisis situations through the Housing Approach, promoting informal and IDP settlements improvement policies crisis-affected countries in the region, namely Iraq, Jordan Lebanon, Sudan and Syria. In addition to increasing tenure security for IDPs, the Housing Approach interventions have also improved living conditions and gender sensitivity in communities in IDP settlements and refugee camps through self-repair and reconstruction of housing units as well as installation, operation and maintenance of basic community infrastructure by community members.

Post-crisis recovery and reconstruction

A SWOT (strengths, weaknesses, opportunities and threats) analysis that informed the SP 2014–2019 identified areas in which UN-Habitat has expertise and relative strength, one of which was: "field operations in post-conflict and post-disaster countries, encompassing land conflict mediation, reconstruction of housing and infrastructure, and…the continuum from relief to sustainable recovery in urban areas".

UN-Habitat's post-crisis interventions in the Arab region through the Housing Approach are guided by the *Strategic Policy on Human Settlements in Crisis and Sustainable Relief and Reconstruction Framework*[150]. The policy was developed as an integral part of the MTSIP and articulates a specific provision for urban resiliency and vulnerability reduction in FA 2, and post-crisis recovery and reconstruction under FA 3.

150 UN-Habitat (2008) Humanitarian Affairs, and the Role of UN-Habitat: Strategic Policy on Human Settlements in Crisis and Sustainable Relief and Reconstruction Framework.

The five key priority areas of UN-Habitat's post-crisis reconstruction programming in the policy involve advisory and technical support on: 1) Land and tenure; 2) Transitional and permanent shelter; 3) Environmental remediation; 4) Rehabilitation of basic infrastructure and services; and 5) Immediate economic recovery and restoration of livelihoods. In addition, UN-Habitat combines its global and technical cooperation experience to provide immediate technical assistance to affected communities, local authorities and support agencies in the areas of housing reconstruction, infrastructure rehabilitation, water and sanitation, and livelihoods. UN-Habitat's contribution to conflict resolution in the region focuses on the HDP nexus.

UN-Habitat is supporting local authorities in "planning back better", which is aimed to prioritize planning, and implement reconstruction and recovery actions to mitigate future risks, thus providing the basis for durable solutions for IDP and refugee camps. Building on the experience gained and lessons learned from pilot initiatives, ROAS aims to promote this post-conflict urban reconstruction approach across the Arab region.

The crisis-affected countries in the region (Iraq, Jordan Lebanon, Sudan and Syria) have taken active steps to develop an issues-based coalition on HLP at country level and to address tensions between customary land rights and formal legal systems, forced displacement and accelerated migration.

Disaster risk reduction (DRR), Climate Change Adaptation (CCA) and Urban Resilience

UN-Habitat has developed a regional programme for Climate Change and Urban Resilience for the Arab Region in line with the SDGs, NUA and the *Arab Strategy for Housing and Sustainable Urban Development 2030* and aligned with the UN-Habitat *Climate Change Strategy (2014-2019)*.[151] The programme aims to support Arab States cities to adapt to climate change impacts through a number of projects and tools.

The 'Future Saudi Cities Programme (FSCP)' — a five-year partnership between Saudi Arabia's Ministry of Municipal and Rural Affairs (MOMRA) and UN-Habitat to catalyse sustainable urban development while contributing to the delivery of the 10th National Development Plan 2015-2019 (10th NDP) — integrated urban resilience strategies and preparedness guidelines for climate change mitigation of and adaptation in vulnerable areas in Saudi cities. The FSCP also provided on the job capacity building training to planners and supported cities in the development and implementation of their resilience action plans.

A key finding of the Evaluation of the Implementation of UN-Habitat's Medium-Term Strategic and Institutional Plan 2008-2013 was that:

> **"All countries' perceive UN-Habitat's support as having a positive impact on national urban policies and planning. UN-Habitat has generally supported policies related to urban planning, land management, housing, water and sanitation, solid waste management and climate change."[152]**

Housing Approach normative activities have resulted in improved knowledge of disaster risk reduction (DRR) for institutions and communities in Arab States countries through improved sharing of information and implementation of awareness activities. In Morocco, for example, intervention programmes to secure and improve the living conditions of communities affected by natural disasters were implemented in the ancient *medinas* (old towns). A priority programme including seven projects covering 25,000 household was initiated by the Ministry of Housing, Urban Planning and City Policy with the support of UN-Habitat in 2013; and 2014 saw 11 cities planned as part of this programme. UN-Habitat supports this process as a component of the right to the city.[153].

151 UN-Habitat (2015) Climate Change Strategy 2014-2019.

152 UN-Habitat (2012) Evaluation of the Implementation of UN-Habitat's Medium-Term Strategic and Institutional Plan 2008-2013, p.20.

153 UN-Habitat (2015) Annual Progress Report 2014: Implementation of the Strategic Plan (2014 - 2019)



Advocacy

The *Evaluation of the Regional Office for Arab States* affirms that in establishing AMFHUD, "*ROAS has been extremely successful in setting up what could be termed as the foremost regional instrument for policy reform advocacy and advancement of the agency's corporate agenda.*"[154]

The Arab Land Initiative — facilitated by UN-Habitat, GLTN and the World Bank and composed of several partners active in the region — has proven to be an effective platform to promote good land governance and increase alignment, coordination and collaboration among different countries, organisations and partners. The Initiative led to the organisation of the *First Arab Land Conference* in February 2018. The conference brought together over 300 participants composed by government delegations, international organisations, land professionals, private sector, real estate developers, academia, civil society, and, very importantly, women's groups.

UN-Habitat ensures that HLP rights of returnees in the conflict affected countries in the Arab region, and indeed other regions with conflict affected countries as well, are addressed through advocacy, and related means such as the provision of policy advice and legal support, verification and recognition of occupancy rights, and capacity development support.

In Kuwait, UN-Habitat has been advocating for a new vision highlighting the importance of government involvement in housing policy development across the region by emphasizing the involvement of both government and the private sector to meet the expected growth demand in which requires a new housing approach. And in Lebanon, UN-Habitat focuses on the advocacy and implementation of interventions that contribute to achieving the targets of SDG 11 and the NUA.

154 UN-Habitat (2016) Evaluation of the Regional Office for Arab States, p.9.

Technical assistance and capacity building

UN-Habitat has provided technical assistance support to four countries — Jordan, Lebanon, Morocco Sudan and Tunisia — trough the sustainable, inclusive and evidence-based National Urban Policies. The countries are at different stages of developing and implementing their national urban policies.

One of the key outputs in the RSP is 'Capacity building programmes implemented for key staff in municipalities and cities on how to develop, monitor and evaluate Urban Development Plans'. In this regard, UN-Habitat has provided technical assistance support to several countries in the region, from even before the RSP, to establish NUOs and LUOs. In Sudan, for example, a NUO and six LUOs were established in partnership with the Ministry of Environment and six State ministries of planning with technical assistance support from UN-Habitat, while Lebanon established three LUOs. The Kuwait Urban Observatory was likewise established with UN-Habitat technical support and extended to study tours and training on Arab Towns Observatories setup in cooperation with Arab Towns Organization and its affiliated Arab Urban Development Institute. In Saudi Arabia, which has established more than 12 urban observatories in 12 cities, LUOS and the General Authority of Statistics used the CPI in the production of eight CPI reports.

The document review suggests that, in line with MTSIP FA1:EA3, improved global monitoring through NUOs and LUOs has enabled countries and cities to improve their capacity to design, access, manage and analyse their information to enhance policy, planning and decision-making. In relation to this, the CO questionnaire asked COs to rate the extent to which LUOs are relevant to assess the realization of adequate housing rights at country level, and while Lebanon and Palestine rated them as highly relevant, Iraq considered them to be not at all relevant, as the results presented in Annex 16-Part 5 show.

Capacity building of housing stakeholders through regional training workshops has been an important aspect of the UN-Habitat's Housing Approach in the Arab States region, that has had a significant impact. For example, in 2013, 25 representatives of ministries, land professionals, academia, grassroots organizations and youth groups from Algeria, Egypt, Iraq, Jordan, Morocco, Palestine, Sudan, Syria, and Yemen had their capacity strengthened in the concepts and principles of land and tenure security in a Muslim context. Champions comprising both individuals and organizations to take forward tenure security work in the region were identified and a preliminary list of priority tools to be adapted and developed for the context was agreed upon[155]. This has resulted in improved security of tenure for thousands of poor and vulnerable households.

Under the FSCP, UN-Habitat established full presence in Saudi Arabia and provided efficient and effective technical support to the Ministry of Municipalities and Rural Affairs (MOMRA) and the target 17 cities to cover 70% of the total population of the Kingdom (about 21 million inhabitants) to respond to national and local urban challenges[156]. UN-Habitat worked with the 17 cities and elaborated 17 city profiles that informed plans and designs for more compact, socially inclusive, safe, integrated and resilient urban centres; as well as three demonstration projects, proposing spatial, financial and policy recommendations[157].

Technical assistance and capacity building are key objectives in the majority of the case study country illustrative projects, as the respective tables (Table 18, Table 21 and Table 24), on 'Housing related programmes/ projects– Housing Approach elements' show. The review of the Project Documents available on PAAS for the projects in each of the three countries reveals that most of the technical assistance and capacity building of the Housing Approach is geared towards promoting local ownership and/or ensuring sustainability of interventions. For example, in the 'Gender-sensitive Durable Shelter Support for IDPs in Iraq' project, a key output was 'Awareness raising and capacity building trainings to manage and maintain shelter sites with gender sensitivity are conducted, targeting relevant governorate counterparts, beneficiaries and members of host communities'. This capacity building objective applies equally to most of the projects being implemented through the Housing Approach in other countries in the region.

155 UN-Habitat (2013) Annual Progress Report 2013: Implementation of the Medium-Term Strategic and Institutional Plan (MTSIP) (2008 - 2013).

156 UN-Habitat (2016) Bi-Annual Programme Activity Report: June 2016.

157 UN-Habitat (2019) Annual Progress Report 2019

Implementation of the STDM has strengthen the capacity of the municipalities and Mukhtars in Iraq and they are now able to mediate property-related grievances, reject unsubstantiated claims, and arbitrate disputes involving overlapping claim.

The 'Participatory Citywide Urban Upgrading (PCWUU) in Egypt' project, summarily described in Box 4, provides a good example of the Housing Approach supporting governments and civil society to bring about changes in slum improvement and prevention. A notable unintended impact of the PCWUU project in Egypt is the establishment of the 'Informal Settlements in the Arab Region' group, created as an online platform to share experiences and cross learn from various Arab countries on housing and upgrading issues, focusing on addressing informal, poor and deteriorated urban areas.

Implementation

An important part of the execution of the ROAS RSP is the implementation by ROAS and COs of multicountry thematic projects which combine UN-Habitat's direct technical cooperation with inter-country technical cooperation. The RSP also affirms that UN-Habitat will implement projects in the fields of WASH, shelter and reconstruction in post-conflict contexts in partnership with local authorities and CBOs to identify and support most vulnerable communities and individuals.

A substantial number of past and current programmes and projects in the ROAS and CO portfolios include operational implementation support in line with the Housing Approach. This is evidenced in Table 18, Table 21 and Table 24 showing 'Illustrative housing related projects – Housing Approach elements and timeframe' for Iraq, Egypt and Jordan respectively. The operational interventions have generally been implemented to serve one of the following objectives: 1) to demonstrate the feasibility of a policy or strategy; 2) to support capacity building of stakeholders; or 3) to directly improve the housing conditions of crisis affected populations or slum dwellers.

The implementation of the JAH Programme (summarily described in Box 5) is consistent the Housing Approach in the SP 2014-2019 and NUA.. It is, in particular, in keeping with Paragraph 107 in the NUA which encourages the development of policies, tools, mechanisms and financing models that promote access to a wide range of affordable, sustainable housing options, including rental and other tenure options, in order to improve the supply of housing, especially for low-income groups.

The STDM, which has been used to document land rights and register land conflicts in the Democratic Republic of Congo (DRC) and Uganda in the Africa region, has also been used for refugee mapping in Jordan, and provides a good example of effective UN-Habitat inter-regional learning and experience sharing. UNHCR has imported Za'atari refugee camp mapping and enumerations data into STDM, providing a good example of operational inter-agency working.

As part of its efforts to address urban crises and vulnerabilities, UN-Habitat has developed city and neighbourhood profiles as tools to identify challenges within vulnerable urban localities. In cooperation with key stakeholders, COs have identified major challenges facing vulnerable communities, and prioritized locally owned solutions, and also created stakeholder coordination platforms. Based on the prioritized needs, UN-Habitat has implemented multi-disciplinary projects responding to challenges and needs including community infrastructure such as water, sanitation and hygiene, public spaces, livelihoods, and social stability. In Lebanon, for example, UN-Habitat supported projects implemented between 2017-2018 have directly benefited and had an immediate impact on the living conditions and/or lives of more than 125,000 vulnerable beneficiaries [158].

158 UN-Habitat (2019) Country Activities Report 2019: Supporting to the New Urban Agenda

Implementation of pilot projects in a number of countries has resulted in improved preparedness of communities in urban and rural conflict-affected areas to cope with disaster risks, which has had a significant poverty impact. The impact on poverty is large because poor people are more vulnerable to natural and man-made disasters, lose more as a share of their wealth when hit, and receive less support from governments, and family and friends. As disasters can push people into poverty, DRR can be considered an effective poverty reduction strategy.

However, as also observed in the RSP, some of the post-crisis reconstruction projects that have involved relocation of affected communities have been criticized for being too distant from employment opportunities and social services and amenities, and having inadequate public transport provision. Such settlements do not meet all the seven criteria of adequate housing defined in Annex 1 — in particular the criterion on 'Location' which states that: "*Housing is not adequate if it is cut off from employment opportunities, health-care services, schools, childcare centres and other social facilities...*"

Sustainability

In the Housing Approach, the intended sustainability of the impact of the UN-Habitat housing interventions is based on the improvement of housing and slum upgrading and prevention policy and strategy frameworks, enabling an eventual increase at scale of access to adequate housing for all.

The final evaluation of the Jordan Affordable Housing Programme, Phase 1 concluded that:

> **"The Programme is sustainable given that it addresses an acute housing shortage without additional subsidies by the government and its reliance on the private sector that is capable of producing low-cost housing at high quality. The programme is based on the strong participation of the stakeholders and is also included in the national priority framework and programme documents for the next few years thus ensuring its continued relevance."**



Table 28: Summary Examples of Significant Achievements/Changes/Impacts per Country in the Arab States region

Country	Key Achievements/Significant changes/Impacts
Egypt	2,000,000 inhabitants in 70 small cities are to benefit from the preparation of strategic urban plans contain priority projects.
	Over 180,000 vulnerable inhabitants had the clean water supply at their homes improved in 2018 through the scaling up of river-bed filtration units based on the pilot project implemented by UN-Habitat in Menya, Upper Egypt in 2017.
Iraq	3,000 war-damaged houses rehabilitated in cities liberated from ISIL (2016 - 2019).
	4,000 durable shelter units constructed to accommodate vulnerable IDPs and returnees (2014 - 2019).
	1,064 certificates of occupancy were issued from which about 6,000 people benefitted from improved security of tenure during 2018.
	Upgraded: 2,760 slum homes for 19,300 people; 23 water system; and 6 water and sanitation networks for 25,000 people; 370 community facilities for 50,000 people..
Jordan	15,000 residents, especially women, in Al-Ghweirieh Neighbourhood are enjoying improved access to inclusive and safe public space in Zarqa Municipality.
	115,000 Syrian refugees with improved access to sustainable WASH services in Za'atari and Azraq Camps.
Kuwait	Training of staff on the SDGs and in particular SDG11 and data collection for City Prosperity Initiative and Urban Observatory,
	Sharing knowledge and expertise on the SDGs, Slums upgrading
Lebanon	8 Technical Units have been established within the unions of municipalities, 4 of which are currently fully operational through funding from the unions.
	Over 30 Neighbourhood Profiles will be published by 2019.
	The Lebanon Country Programme projects (2017-2018) have thus far benefited more than 250,000 direct vulnerable people in Lebanon.
Libya	6 City Profiles have been developed for the cities of Benghazi, Ubari, al-Kufra, Sabha, Sirte and Janzour and identified neighbourhoods in critical need, and key priorities for action in each sector.
	18 urban specialists from different branches of Libya's Urban Planning Agency (UPA) and six municipalities benefited from a training in Geoinformation System (GIS) mapping on urban planning.
Morocco	UN-Habitat Scroll of Honour for the Cities Without Slums Program "Villes sans bidonvilles" awarded to Morocco on World Habitat Day, Shanghai, China, October 2010.
Saudi Arabia	A new Integrated Planning Act has been launched the for the first time based on the advice of the Future Saudi Cities Programme (FSCP).
	More than 5,000 multi stakeholders, including women and youth, attended and shared their views on Saudi cities during the 1st and 2nd Saudi Urban Forums.
	The slum upgrading and urban regeneration of Al-Medina was based on the clear assessment of the Al- Medina Al-Monawarah Local Urban Observatory data resulting in improved quality of life of lower income groups .
State of Palestine	55,000 Palestinians in East Jerusalem and Area C of the West Bank have been spared through a freeze in the eviction and displacement process.
	More than 700 people have been provided shelter — with a specific focus on vulnerable and disadvantaged women.
	89,000 (44,000 females and 45,000 males) residents from Bit Lahia benefited from the Al-Shaimaa public space
Sudan	18,000 IDPs were allocated land with certificates of title in Damazin, Blue Nile State.
	82,500 returnees in 52 return villages benefited from the production of plans, which included possible direction(s) of the settlements' future expansion.
	17,724 people had been granted land titles which had improved their security of by the end of 2019,

Country	Key Achievements/Significant changes/Impacts
Syrian Arab Republic	More than 7,000 displaced Syrians benefitted from the rehabilitation of 74 buildings and 195 units in Homs and Aleppo Governorates to provide a minimum level of shelter for during 2018
	130 staff from 32 municipalities were trained in rapid urban planning to improve services for more than 3 million urban Syrians across Syria
	Approximately,1.2 million Syrians have directly and/or indirectly benefited from improved access to cadastral services to improve their security of tenure in 2018.
Tunisia	More than 2,500 citizens, of which 500 were women and 500 children, benefited from improved access to the upgraded public space in Djerba Midoun in 2018.
	18 civil servants including statisticians and specialists in data collection and analysis benefited from a series of technical workshops on computing indicators related to SDG 11
Yemen	More than 10,000 women have increased access to, use of and control over housing, land and property rights.
	Over 8,000 vulnerable displaced people in war-affected cities benefited from improved living conditions.
	8 cities used the city profiling and recovery inclusive plans to improve the living conditions of war-affected communities.

Estimating the value-added of the UN-Habitat programme

UN-Habitat's unique value-added and comparative advantage lies at the global, regional and country level, as found through the document review and KIIs.

UN-Habitat's contribution and value added to the global housing and urban development agenda is derived from its knowledge and expertise, and its ability to provide evidence-based innovative normative and operational housing and urban solutions. Its convening power, its capacity to influence long-term change and its ability to leverage partnerships at global, regional, national and local levels all contribute to its added value and implementation capabilities. Indeed, UN-Habitat has been introducing new elements to its high value-added services and methodologies on sustainable urbanization and housing development through its Housing Approach, including at the regional level in the Arab States region.

UN-Habitat's strategic decision to establish a physical office in the Arab States region has fully paid off, as affirmed by the *Evaluation of the Regional Office for Arab State*. It has proved to be a significant value added for the agency in promoting its key policy messages in the region, by helping it acquire greater political legitimacy, credibility, proximity to national partners and increased efficiency.

At the regional level the acknowledged value added of the UN-Habitat Housing Approach is its mix of operational and normative work, coupled with UN-Habitat's global and regional expertise and experience in urban and housing development — and its capacity to "facilitate and catalyse" change.

The implementation of the Housing Approach through partnerships promotes synergy between normative and operational activities, which are largely interdependent and mutually reinforcing. UN-Habitat's operational interventions are informed by the normative analytical and knowledge generation and sharing processes. In the same way, the normative work is reinforced by lessons learned from operational implementation activities. Indeed, it is this synergetic and mutually reinforcing interface between normative and operational activities as well as the capacity to span the divide between them through the Housing Approach that gives UN-Habitat a comparative advantage and explains the unique added value that it is able to provide to governments and other HAPs.

Targeted technical assistance and capacity building support has increased UN-Habitat's value added through regional level technical expertise and advisory services. Through the Housing Approach, it has continued to add value by providing technical assistance and strengthening the capacities of regional institutions, such as LAS and AMFHUD, and country-level institutions. The value added of UN-Habitat's technical assistance work is evidenced by the continued increasing demand for its support over the evaluation period (2008-2019), resulting in a growing technical cooperation portfolio as evidenced by the case study Country Programme project portfolios.

UN-Habitat has successfully demonstrated its value added in using an integrated urban agenda approach in both post-crisis recovery and reconstruction programming, as well as for pre-crisis risk reduction interventions. This is attributed to the mainstreaming of the *Strategic Policy on Human Settlements and Crisis* and its operational framework, the *Sustainable Relief and Reconstruction Framework in the work of the Agency*. UN-Habitat's contribution to crisis-related interventions has been guided by the two instruments, which have established internal normative and operational roles for the Agency as well as defined the basis for engagement with partners under an urban humanitarian and risk reduction agenda. UN-Habitat's comparative advantage and value added in post-crisis reconstruction is summarized in Box 6.

Box 6: UN-Habitat's comparative advantage and value added in post-crisis reconstruction

UN-Habitat has a global presence, with 60 country offices or representatives, and has provided operational support (Technical, Advisory etc.) to over 80 countries. In relation to the HDP Nexus, UN-Habitat's comparative advantage is unique. While some other agencies have both humanitarian and development mandates and experience, few have strong urban expertise, including a peace stabilization programme targeting key drivers such as land conflicts. Added to this, UN-Habitat has both extensive operational programmes and capacity to support member States in countries affected by crisis, and where national capacity has been depleted by crises or protracted conflict.

Historically UN-Habitat has strong relationships with both national and sub-national governance staff (including Local Authorities, Mayors, Municipalities, and Ministries), which supports partnership-building. Additionally, UN-Habitat has strong convening powers, demonstrated by the number of active participants in events such as WUF and Habitat III. The agency chairs the Medellin Collaboration for Urban Resilience and hosts the Making City Resilient Campaign, with almost 4,000 cities currently subscribed.

UN-Habitat is one of only 10 UN Agencies to be a member of the Inter-Agency Standing Committee (IASC), a forum for coordination, policy development and decision-making involving key humanitarian partners. Under the leadership of the Emergency Relief Coordinator, the IASC develops humanitarian policies, agrees on a clear division of responsibility for the various aspects of humanitarian assistance, identifies and addresses gaps in response, and advocates for effective application of humanitarian principles. UN-Habitat is an active member in a broad range of IASC fora.

Source: UN-Habitat's contribution to the Humanitarian-Development-Peace (HDP) Nexus[159]

159 UN-Habitat (2017) UN-Habitat's Contribution to the Humanitarian-Development-Peace (HDP) Nexus

UN-Habitat also promotes -value added and inclusiveness in programmes and projects implemented through its Housing Approach by involving strategic partners and multiple stakeholders, including civil society, women, youth and other vulnerable groups, where appropriate and possible, as clearly evidenced in Table 17, Table 20 and Table 23 listing the key programme/ project partners in Iraq, Egypt and Jordan respectively.

The questionnaire sent out to COs asked them to rate the value added of UN-Habitat in addressing adequate housing issues at the country level. The responses of the five Arab States countries that completed the questionnaire (Iraq, Egypt, Lebanon, Palestine and Saudi Arabia) are presented in Annex 16 – Part 2. They identified the following as the areas in which UN-Habitat has the highest value added:

- Expertise in knowledge management related to housing (3 out of 5).
- Expertise in building capacities of national governments and partners (technical assistance and trainings) (3/5).
- Expertise on the development and implementation of housing strategies and programs at national level (3/5).
- Expertise in supporting dialogue among country housing sector stakeholders (3/5).
- Expertise in slum upgrading and prevention strategies and interventions (3/5).

The MTSIP 2008-2013 Results-based Framework proposed that new staff recruitment be aligned with the MTSIP FAs, in two particular areas: (i) socio-economic analysis in response to the MTSIP focus on providing value added support at country level in knowledge generation, advocacy and policy development; and (ii) finance systems to respond to the FAs on affordable housing, and financing of housing and basic urban infrastructure and services[160]. While the agency successfully achieved the first, the interviews with key stakeholders suggest that it did not achieve the second, as housing finance was consistently identified as a critical area in which UN-Habitat value added is low.

Impact monitoring

A key result area of the MTSIP under FA 6: Excellence in Management — which was intended to create an enabling environment for the effective implementation of the five substantive FAs shown in Annex 2 — was improved performance and policies based on feedback from an enhanced integrated programme monitoring, evaluation and reporting focusing on results and lessons learned. Objective 2 of the MTSIP Action Plan was thus to implement, by 2013, RBM and knowledge management (KM) to enhance monitoring and evaluation, while also ensuring transparency and accountability in the management of human and financial resources.

The implementation of the ROAS RSP, finalized in late 2015 and ending in 2019 at the end of the SP 2014-19 period, was to be monitored through regular data collection and updates on the progress of the expected accomplishments at regional and country levels in line with RBM guidelines. This was to be done through meetings, reports and the use of PAAS on a quarterly basis, so as to ensure accountability, sharing of best practices and provide a basis for informed decision on future plans. According to the RSP, ROAS would ensure that projects report to PAAS on a quarterly basis to enable monitoring at country, regional and head office levels.

PAAS is an online system designed to monitor all steps in Project Cycle Management, from project design and project approval, through project implementation, up to closure of the project and knowledge management. According to the SP 2014-2019, it was intended to also "*provide, on a continuous basis, evidence-based information that is credible, reliable and useful, thus enabling the timely incorporation of evaluation findings, recommendations and lessons into the decision-making processes of UN-Habitat*".

160 UN-Habitat (2007) Medium Term Strategic and Institutional Plan for 2008-2013: Results-based Framework.

However, interviewees in the 2016 evaluation of ROAS, both at ROAS and CO level, were highly critical of the system. COs admitted that they only very partially complied with PAAS reporting requirements, giving the following reasons (with which ROAS agreed):

- PAAS is not user-friendly and it is difficult to load information, especially in locations where Internet may be erratic as is the case in many countries with UN-Habitat field activities;
- Duplication of reporting inherent in PAAS; and
- COs often have multiple reporting obligations in the field, depending on the requirements of donors and/or their Government counterparts.

The present evaluation similarly found very limited use by COs of PAAS as a planning, monitoring and evaluation tool — largely for the reasons stated above.

Impact monitoring was one of the issues addressed in the CO questionnaire. In response to the question on the extent to which various existing systems are relevant to assess the impact of UNHabitat on adequate housing at the country level, Iraq, Egypt and Lebanon identified UN-Habitat Housing programme/project reports and evaluation as being highly relevant.

Summary Assessment of the Relevance, Value Added and Impact of the UN-Habitat Regional and Country Housing Approach

Intervention scope

Table 29. How actively are UN-Habitat areas of intervention scope addressed in the current Arab States portfolio?

Intervention Scope	Level of activity	Relevance	Comparative advantage	Value added	Impact
Knowledge management: Providing government and housing sector stakeholders with new approaches, best practices and lessons to be learned	4	5	5	5	3
Advocacy: Promoting the full and progressive realization of the right to adequate housing	3	5	4	4	3
Policy advice: Improving national normative framework	4	5	5	5	3
Technical assistance: Supporting city, regional and national authorities' capacities	3	5	4	4	3
Implementation: Supporting development and implementation of national housing strategies	3	5	5	5	3
Implementation: Supporting the implementation of adequate housing programs	3	5	5	5	3
Implementation: Supporting slum upgrading and prevention policies and strategies	3	4	5	5	3
Implementation: Demonstrate feasibility of strategies/programs through implementation	3	5	4	4	3
Monitoring and Evaluation: Systematic and rigorous monitoring, evaluation and learning on housing	2	5	4	4	2

Code: 1= Very low or none; 2 = Low; 3 = Medium; 4 = high; 5 = very high

Coverage of the strategic objectives

Table 30. How actively are UN-Habitat strategic guidelines addressed in the current Habitat Mexico program?

Strategic Objectives	Level of activity	Relevance	Comparative advantage	Value added	Impact
Adequate housing					
Increase access to adequate housing to all	4	5	5	5	3
Increase access to adequate housing to low-income households	4	5	4	4	3
Support diversification of adequate housing solutions	3	4	4	4	3
Support diversification of government interventions in providing adequate housing	3	4	3	3	2
Support advocacy groups	1	3	4	4	3
Support self-organizing housing initiatives (by NGO or INGO)	2	4	4	4	2
Provide adequate housing to crisis affected population (conflict, disaster, migration, ...)	4	3	2	4	4
Improve living conditions in existing slums/informal settlements	4	5	5	5	3
Poverty reduction and cross cutting issues					
Increase housing affordability for low-income households	4	3	3	1	1
Increase housing affordability for all	3	2	2	1	1
Improve access to economic resources, affordable goods and services for low-income households	3	4	2	1	1
Improve social inclusion and integration at city-wide scale	1	4	2	1	1
Support gender or age sensitive housing strategies or programs	1	4	1	1	1
Improve access to adequate housing for female headed households	1	3	1	1	1
Improve access to adequate housing for youth	1	3	1	1	1
Support climate change sensitive housing strategies or programs	1	2	1	1	1

Code: 1= Very low or none; 2 = Low; 3 = Medium; 4 = high; 5 = very high

LESSONS LEARNED

The following are the key lessons learned from the Arab States regional case study

- The UN-Habitat Housing Approach can create significant opportunities for poor and vulnerable groups — in particular IDPs, refugees and returnees —to improve their living standards and ensure their housing rights through implementation of operational implementation projects that ultimately influence normative policy frameworks.

- The right to adequate housing in post-conflict situations can be enhanced through the rehabilitation of damaged houses for occupation by returnees and issuance of occupancy certificates as a first step to full ownership titles.

- Engagement of high level and other key relevant housing stakeholders provides valuable insights into a variety of housing issues, and enhances the process for formulation of national housing policies and national and citywide slum upgrading strategies. It also removes any barriers between stakeholders and strengthens ownership of the policies and strategies developed, resulting in more efficient and effective implementation of the same.

- The STDM can be used to incrementally improve tenure of IDPs, refugees and returnees and strengthen their HLP rights.

- Post conflict housing rehabilitation and reconstruction can provide opportunities to create sustainable livelihoods and poverty reduction through capacity building and employment opportunities.

- DRR interventions can have a significant poverty impact by reducing communities' vulnerability to damage and loss of homes and property.

- Although at the international, regional and national levels there are some legal instruments that support and protect women's HLP rights, in many Arab States countries, customary law and tradition pose serious impediments to women's enjoyment of their rights. Gender-sensitive durable housing solutions can significantly improve women's HLP rights.

- Pilot projects cannot only have an immediate impact in the communities in which they are implemented but are also a powerful advocacy tool.

RECOMMENDATIONS

General

1. **Status and reputation of UN-Habitat.** Leverage UN-Habitat's UN agency status and reputation, its recognized comparative advantage and value added as well as its regional and country presence and acknowledged impartiality to help address complex and sensitive issues related to human rights, and in particular access to adequate housing for all; and to promote propoor/vulnerable group housing interventions., especially for women and youth.

2. **Strengthen the coherence and application of the Housing Approach,** Develop and apply a checklist system similar to UN-Habitat's *Cross-Cutting Markers*, and enforce a requirement that new programmes and projects must achieve a specified final rating for the five fundamental normative and operational components to be approved by the Global or Regional Project Advisory Group (PAG).

Regional Strategic Plan

1. **Develop and articulate a comprehensive regional strategy,** through a consultative and participatory processes involving all key stakeholders,, and publish and disseminate it, in print and/or electronic format.

2. **Promote and strengthen the triple nexus of humanitarian, development and peacebuilding (HDP)** efforts in conflict-affected countries, ensuring the explicit integration of cross-cutting issues and poverty reduction.

3. **Encourage sharing of relevant lessons learned from shelter cluster countries** with nonshelter cluster countries in the Arab States region as well as other regions with shelter clusters, eg, on creation of sustainable livelihoods and poverty reduction.

Habitat Country Programme Document

1. **Prepare and apply a Habitat Country Programme Document (HCPD).** All COs, with the support of ROAS and UN-Habitat headquarters, should prepare a HCPD biannually or other period as stipulated, which includes a comprehensive M&E framework. The HCPD should be developed through a participatory process involving national and local governments and other country HAPs to ensure relevance and coherence with national and local development priorities. The HCPD should facilitate bridging the normative and operational gap for a better harmonization of projects and to achieve scalable and sustainable impact.

Knowledge Management

1. **Continue to support production of normative knowledge products.** UN-Habitat should continue to support key normative activities such as production of national housing profiles, and city and profiles city profiles that informed plans and designs for more compact, socially inclusive, safe, integrated and resilient urban centres

2. **Disseminate national and local knowledge products more widely.** Knowledge production and dissemination is acknowledged as an area in which UN-Habitat has a significant comparative advantage. Many of the knowledge products however reach only a limited audience, and ways to disseminate them more widely, including through translation, should be explored in consultation with the target audiences.

3. **Produce online and print summaries of key knowledge products.** In addition, UN-Habitat should distribute print versions through ROAS and COs. It should also explore ways of making its practical operational guides and toolkits more widely accessible, especially to IDP and refugee communities involved in participatory post-crisis reconstruction projects.

Advocacy

1. **Strengthen evidence-based advocacy** at all levels and with different stakeholders drawing on UN-Habitat's normative knowledge production activities, as well as pilot projects, to influence housing policy and practice reform; and use AMFHUD as a regional instrument for policy reform advocacy.

2. **Promote a HRBA through targeted advocacy**, including the H@C approach which places people at the forefront of sustainable and inclusive urban development, encouraging housing initiatives for all income groups.;

Policy Advice

1. **Strengthen evidence-based policy advice.** Improve data and evidence-based knowledge products and ensure currency and relevance and for strengthened policy advice. Where appropriate facilitate south-to-south and peer-to-peer learning and exchange opportunities

2. **Draw on international experience to strengthen policy advice.** UN-Habitat and ROAS should draw on international and regional experience, and share best practices and innovative approaches to enhance policy advice and policy formulation, development and implementation.

Technical assistance and Capacity Development

1. **Continue to exploit UN-Habitat's recognized expertise and achievements** in the field of housing, including slum upgrading and affordable housing, and post-crisis reconstruction, to offer high quality technical assistance and capacity building support to national and local governments, as well as other HAPs.

2. **Follow up on technical assistance and capacity building support.** UN-Habitat should explore how to monitor and follow up on the beneficiaries and results of technical assistance and capacity building activities.

3. **Adopt a cascade capacity building approach.** In order to facilitate wider benefit sharing of the technical assistance and capacity building activities, UN-Habitat should adopt a capacity building model based on a long-term sustainable training cascade through targeted and systematic training of trainers at all levels.

Implementation support

1. **Strengthen and expand operational implementation support at the local level.** Include capacity building and livelihoods components in post crisis housing and infrastructure reconstruction projects where appropriate and feasible.

2. **Ensure full documentation of implementation experiences.** Many important lessons from successful implementation projects are often not learned due to lack of documentation. A basic monitoring and documentation should be budgeted and included in all implementation projects.

Cross cutting issues and poverty reduction

1. **Ensure relevance and consistency of cross-cutting issues with national and local priorities and needs.** While projects should address one or more of the four cross-cutting issues — human rights, gender equality, youth and climate change —the relevance and consistency of the crosscutting issues with national and local priorities and needs should also be ensured.

2. **Strengthen poverty reduction impact monitoring.** UN-Habitat should develop a rigorous system of poverty impact monitoring, with a comprehensive framework of key poverty and vulnerability indicators, and that includes baseline data collection and a systematic method for participatory quantitative and qualitative data collection, analysis and interpretation.

Sustainability

1. **Ensure a sustainability strategy and plan for all programmes and projects.** Implementation initiatives should include a strategy to enhance sustainability, scalability and replicability.. This should involve coordination with key stakeholders during the project design stage.

Value added

1. **Strengthen UN-Habitat's value added.** The Housing Approach should serve as a vehicle for UN-Habitat to refocus its role as the UN agency mandated to promote adequate housing for all and sustainable urbanization; strengthen and expand its expertise in housing; and regain its lost prominence and status as the leading value adding global housing agency, which many believe it has lost over the evaluation period.

2. **Promote value added of UN-Habitat's programmes and projects** by involving strategic partners and multiple stakeholders, especially women, youth, civil society, persons with disability etc., where possible.

Monitoring and Evaluation (M&E) Systems

1. **Ensure capacity of the COs to implement Results-Based Management (RBM)**. UN-Habitat headquarters should ensure that COs have adequate capacity to implement RBM, by conducting training where possible, so as to strengthen quality reporting and ensure consistent reflection of outputs and results, as well as timeliness and transparency in the use of funds.

2. **Ensure resources to monitor all activities.** Monitoring should be a requirement for CO activities, and the program budget should always include the necessary resources. Monitor is required both as a standard management practice and also because many activities are developing and testing models that it is hoped that government or other partners will replicate on a larger scale. This requires that all interventions are well documented and assessed.

3. **Enforce compliance to PAAS reporting.** Review and redesign PAAS through a consultative and participatory process to make it more fit-for-purpose and user-friendly and make specific programmes and projects accessible to donors and funders to increase transparency and accountability and reduce duplication of reporting requirements.

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ANNEXES

Annex 1: **Adequate Housing Criteria**

Criterion	Description
Security of tenure:	Housing is not adequate if its occupants do not have a degree of tenure security which guarantees legal protection against forced evictions, harassment and other threats.
Availability of services, materials, facilities and infrastructure:	Housing is not adequate if its occupants do not have safe drinking water, adequate sanitation, energy for cooking, heating, lighting, food storage or refuse disposal.
Affordability:	Housing is not adequate if its cost threatens or compromises the occupants' enjoyment of other human rights.
Habitability:	Housing is not adequate if it does not guarantee physical safety or provide adequate space, as well as protection against the cold, damp, heat, rain, wind, other threats to health and structural hazards.
Accessibility:	Housing is not adequate if the specific needs of disadvantaged and marginalized groups are not taken into account.
Location:	Housing is not adequate if it is cut off from employment opportunities, health-care services, schools, childcare centres and other social facilities, or if located in polluted or dangerous areas.
Cultural adequacy:	Housing is not adequate if it does not respect and take into account the expression of cultural identity.

Annex 2: **Focus Areas — MTSIP 2008-2013 and Strategic Plan 2014-2019**

Focus Areas MTSIP 2008-2013	Focus Areas Strategic Plan 2014-2019
Effective advocacy, monitoring, and partnership	1. Urban Planning and Design
Urban planning, management, and governance	2. Urban Land, Legislation and Governance
Access to land and housing for all	3. Urban Economy
Environmentally sound basic urban infrastructure and services	4. Urban Basic Services
Strengthening human settlements finance systems	5. Housing and Slum Upgrading
Excellence in management	6. Risk Reduction and Rehabilitation
	7. Research and Capacity Development

Annex 3: **Evaluation Questions**

1. What has been the main effects and impacts of UN-Habitat's Housing Approach in promoting adequate and affordable housing, and reducing urban poverty?

2. In what way has the Housing Approach contributed to access to land and housing; influenced national land and housing policies, strategies, capacity development, programmes, and resource allocation to address adequate and affordable housing needs and to promote sustainable urbanization?

3. What kind of changes to beneficiaries has resulted from UN-Habitat's Housing Approach, in regard to security of tenure to urban poor and slum dwellers?

4. To what extent were the comparative advantages of UN-Habitat applied in design and implementation to achieve maximum impacts?

5. To what extent has the UN-Habitat Housing Approach contributed to realization of human rights in housing policies and actions?

6. To what extent were other inequalities and crossing cutting issues of gender inequality, youth and climate change reduced and impacted by the UN-Habitat Housing Approach?

7. To what extent is the housing approach supporting governments and civil society and bringing changes in Slum improvement and prevention?

8. To what extent is the Housing Approach coherent and informed by the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) and New Urban Agenda (NUA); and complement housing approaches of other development partners?

9. Assess the added value of Sida funding and to what extent is the Housing Approach consistent with the policies and priorities of Sida?

10. What are unintended changes and impacts that were brought by the Housing Approach?

11. What is the likelihood of sustainability transformational changes at national and local levels brought about by UN-Habitat Housing Approach?

Annex 4: **Housing Approach in the New Urban Agenda (NUA)**

Housing is at the centre of transformative commitments for sustainable development in the New Urban Agenda (NUA). Specifically, paragraphs 105-111 emphasize:

Paragraph 105 emphasizes fostering the progressive realization of the right to adequate housing as a component of the right to an adequate standard of living; developing and implementing housing policies at all levels and ensuring coherence among national, subnational and local development strategies, land policies and supply.

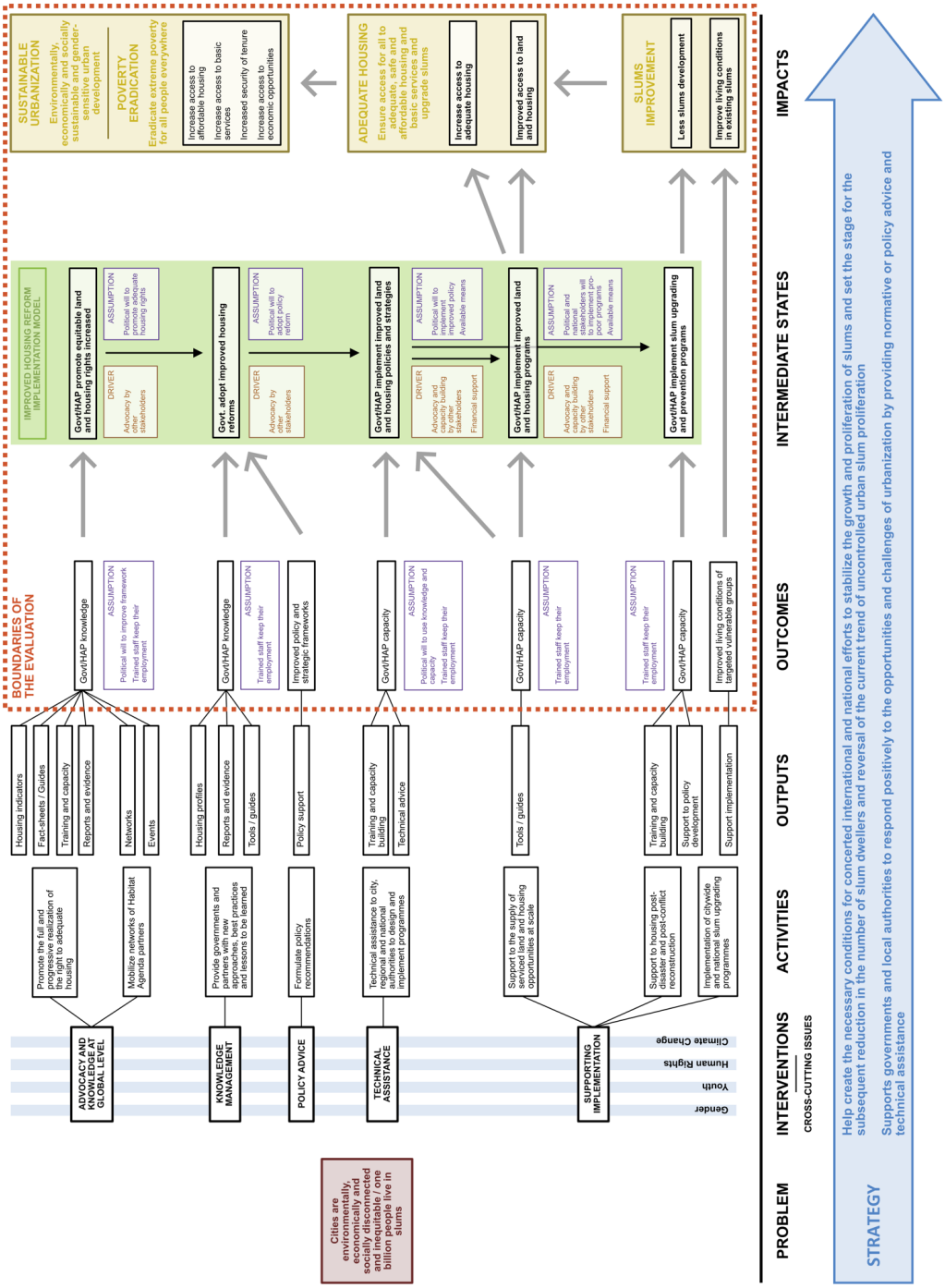
Paragraph 106 is on housing policies based on the principles of social inclusion, economic effectiveness and environmental protection. Use of Public resources for affordable and sustainable housing, would be supported and development of policies, tools, mechanisms and financing models that promote access to a wide range of affordable, sustainable housing options would be encouraged.

Paragraph 107 encourages the development of policies, tools, mechanisms and financing models that promote access to a wide range of affordable, sustainable housing options, including rental and other tenure options, in order to improve the supply of housing, especially for low-income groups.

Paragraph 109 encourages increased allocations of financial and human resources, as appropriate for the slum upgrading, prevention of slums and informal settlements, with strategies that go beyond physical and environmental improvements to ensure that slums and informal settlements are integrated into social, economic, cultural and political dimensions of cities.

In paragraph 111 Member States pledged to promote the development of adequate and enforceable regulations in the housing sector, including resilient building codes, standards, land use; and to promote analysis of housing supply and demand based on high-quality, timely and reliable data at the national, subnational and local levels, taking into account social, economic, environmental and cultural dimensions.

Annex 5: Overall Housing Approach Theory of Change

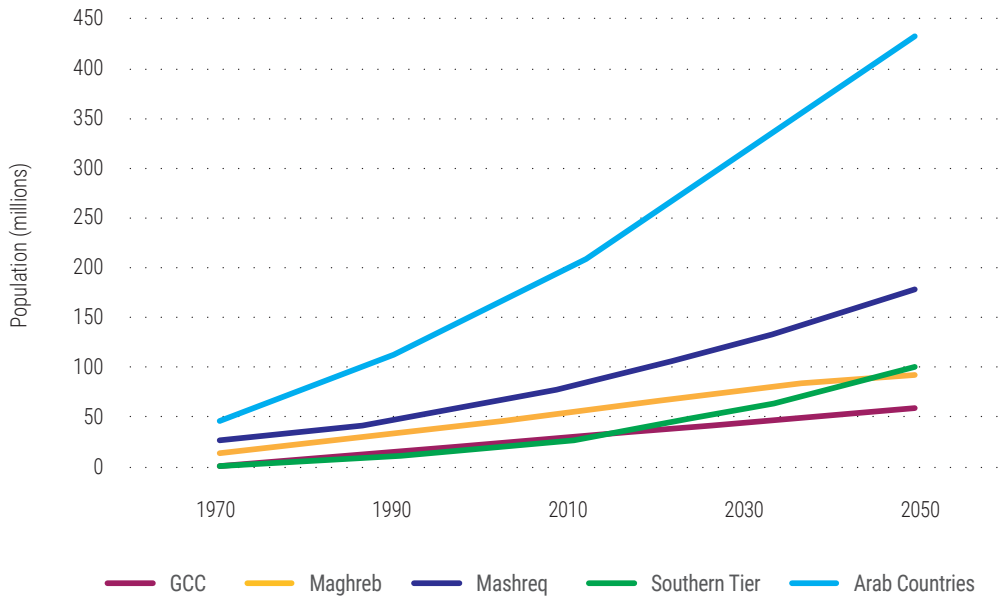


Annex 6: **Country Office Programme/Project Portfolio Consistency with the Housing Approach**

Region	Countries
Africa	Angola, Botswana, Cape Verde, Chad, Democratic Republic of Congo, Djibouti, Eritrea, Ghana, Kenya, Lesotho, Liberia, Mali, Mauritania, Mozambique, Namibia, Nigeria, Senegal, Somalia, South Sudan, Sudan, Uganda, Zambia, Zimbabwe
Arab States	Egypt, Iraq, Jordan, Lebanon, Libya, Palestine, Saudi Arabia
Asia and the Pacific	Afghanistan, Bangladesh, Cambodia, Mongolia, Myanmar, Nepal, Pakistan, Philippines, Sri Lanka, Tuvalu, Vietnam
Latin America and the Caribbean	Bolivia, Chile, Colombia, Cuba, El Salvador, Guyana, Haiti, Mexico
Europe	Georgia, North Macedonia, Serbia

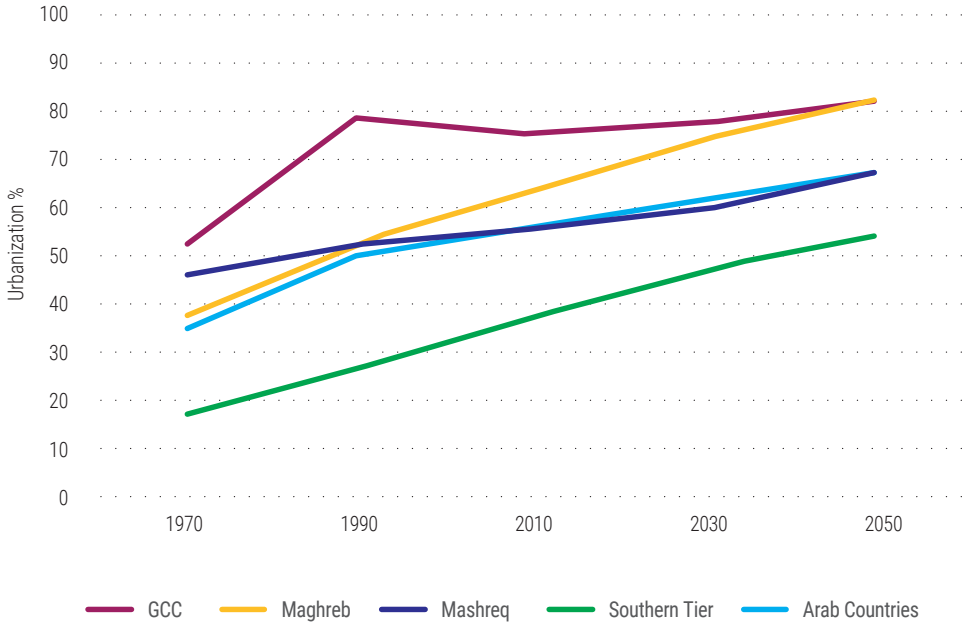
Annex 7: **Arab Regions' Urban Population and Urbanization Trends**

Arab Regions' Urban Population Trend (1970-2050)



Source: State of Arab Cities 2012

Arab region's urbanization trend (1970-2050)



Source: State of Arab Cities 2012

Annex 8: **HDI rankings and values – Iraq, Egypt, Jordan**

	Iraq	Egypt	Jordan	Arab States
Ranking	120	116	102	
HDI Value	0.689	0.700	0.723	0.703
Health				
Life expectancy at birth (years)	70.5	71.8	74.4	71.9
Education				
Expected years of schooling (years)	11.1	13.1	11.9	12.0
Income/Composition of Resources				
Gross national income (GNI) per capita (2011 PPP $)	15,365	10,744	8,268	15,721
Inequality				
Inequality-adjusted HDI (IHDI)	0.552	0.492	0.617	0.531
Gender				
Gender Development Index (GDI)	0.789	0.878	0.868	0.856
Poverty				
Population in multidimensional poverty, headcount (%)	8.6	5.2	0.4	15.7
Work, employment and vulnerability				
Employment to population ratio (% ages 15 and older)	39.2	42.6	33.4	
Human Security				
Homicide rate (per 100,000 people)	9.9	2.5	1.4	
Trade and Financial Flows				
Exports and imports (% of GDP)	81.2	48.3	89.5	

	Iraq	Egypt	Jordan	Arab States
Mobility and Communication				
Internet users, total (% of population)	49.4	46.9	66.8	
Environmental sustainability				
Carbon dioxide emissions, per capita (tonnes)	3.8	2.2	2.5	
Demography				
Total population (millions)	38.4	98.4	10.0	
Socio-economic sustainability				
Skilled labour force (% of labour force)	28.3	54.9	n.a.	

Source: Human Development Report 2019

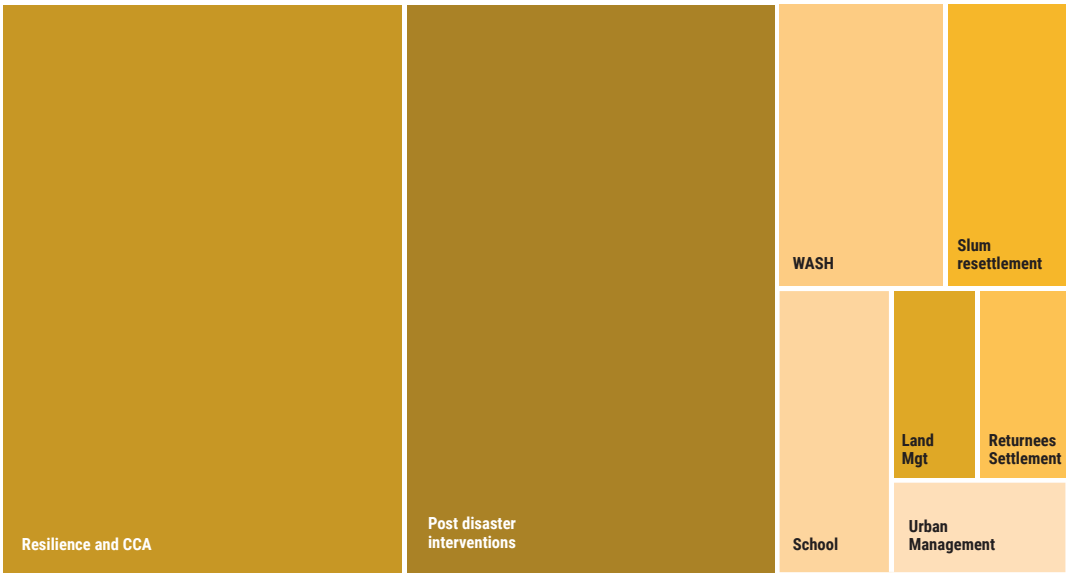
Annex 9: **Iraq Country Programme – Projects in PAAS**

Project Title	Start Date	Project End Date	PAG Value
Housing and Slum Upgrading			
Improving the Housing Delivery System in Erbil	01-Jan-09	31-Mar-20	1,645,547
Strengthening the Capacity of the Housing Phase 3 Bridging Project	01-Sep-10	30-Dec-17	465,000
Improving the Housing delivery System in Erbil	30-May-12	31-Mar-20	842,800
Local Area Development Programme II	01-Jan-15	31-Mar-20	2,101,048
Humanitarian support to IDPs in the Republic of Iraq including the Kurdistan Region of Iraq through provision of durable shelter	01-Mar-15	31-Mar-20	43,686,276
Strengthening the Long-Term Resilience of Subnational Authorities in countries affected by the Syrian and Iraqi Crises	01-Jan-18	31-Mar-22	24,971,363
Supporting Recovery and Stability through Local Development in Iraq, LADP III	01-Jan-19	28-Feb-23	20,852,301
Support to Reconstruction and Peacebuilding of Liberated Cities in Iraq - Phase II	01-Apr-19	31-Mar-21	5,357,142
Risk Reduction and Rehabilitation			
Improving access for IDPs and returnees to acceptable shelter solutions	01-Apr-08	27-Mar-19	5,150,304
Durable Shelter Solutions for IDPs/ Returnees Phase 2	01-Apr-13	31-Mar-14	1,500,000
Bridging for Local Area Development Programme (Phase II of Project N048)	01-Jan-11	31-Dec-17	552,889
Initiating durable shelter solutions for Iraqi IDPs and returnees	01-Nov-11	30-Jun-20	5,499,833
Shelter and WASH Support for non-camp Refugees - Iraq	22-Sep-13	31-Dec-17	1,108,357
Facilitating Private Sector Investment in Durable Solutions in Iraq	07-Oct-13	31-Mar-20	150,000
Shelter and Infrastructure Support for Non-Camp Refugees	01-Feb-14	31-Mar-20	2,500,155
Shelter Support for IDP's - Iraq	01-Aug-14	31-Mar-20	7,850,850
Enhancing health and dignity of displaced women in Iraq	04-Jan-15	31-Mar-20	995,100
Humanitarian support to IDPs in the Republic of Iraq including the Kurdistan Region of Iraq through provision of durable shelter	01-Mar-15	31-Mar-20	43,686,276
Humanitarian support to IDPs in the Republic of Iraq including the Kurdistan Region of Iraq through provision of durable shelter II	01-Mar-16	31-Mar-20	15,000,000
Iraq Urban Recovery Programme	01-Jul-16	31-Mar-20	2,273,750
Promoting Urban Recovery in Newly Liberated Areas in Iraq: Community-based Stabilization Project	01-Mar-15	31-Mar-20	5,500,000
Emergency Shelter Support Response to IDPs from Mosul: Provision of Emergency Shelter Kits (ESK)	18-Oct-16	14-Jul-21	2,951,729

Project Title	Start Date	Project End Date	PAG Value
Strengthening the Long-Term Resilience of Subnational Authorities in countries affected by the Syrian and Iraqi Crises	01-Jan-18	31-Mar-22	24,971,363
Supporting Recovery and Stability through Local Development in Iraq, LADP III	01-Jan-19	28-Feb-23	20,852,301
SDG Climate Facility: Climate Action for Human Security - S1-32QXB-000503	16-Mar-19	31-Dec-23	50,000
Support to Reconstruction and Peacebuilding of Liberated Cities in Iraq - Phase II	01-Apr-19	31-Mar-21	5,357,142
Housing Rehabilitation in Mosul	15-Jan-20	14-Dec-21	570,000
Urban Basic Services			
Water & Sanitation Master Planning & Capacity Building Programme, Iraq	02-Dec-09	27-Mar-19	1,496,434
Iraq Public Sector Modernisation (I-PSM) Programme	28-Apr-10	31-Dec-17	2,579,613
Shelter and Infrastructure Support for Non-Camp Refugees	01-Feb-14	31-Mar-20	2,500,155
Local Area Development Programme II	01-Jan-15	31-Mar-20	2,101,048
Enhancing health and dignity of displaced women in Iraq	04-Jan-15	31-Mar-20	995,100
Provision of Emergency Water Supply, Latrines and Bathing Facilities Including Infrastructure to IDPs from Mosul	15-Oct-16	31-Mar-20	1,730,633
Urban Land Legislation & Governance			
Local Government Association and Urban Development Capacity Building Project	01-Apr-08	31-Dec-12	1,985,257
Support to Decentralization & Local Governance for Service Delivery	01-Apr-10	27-Mar-19	722,500
Durable Shelter Solutions for IDPs/ Returnees Phase 2	01-Apr-13	31-Mar-14	1,500,000
Iraq Public Sector Modernisation (I-PSM) Programme	28-Apr-10	31-Dec-17	2,579,613
Initiating durable shelter solutions for Iraqi IDPs and returnees	01-Nov-11	30-Jun-20	5,499,833
Iraq Public Sector Modernisation Programme (IPSM) Phase II	01-Jan-13	31-Dec-20	3,143,946
Establishing a Building Control Regime for KR-I	04-Jan-15	31-Mar-20	380,000
Support to Housing, Land and Property Rights for IDPs in Nineveh	30-Sep-18	30-Sep-21	2,100,000
Urban Planning and Design			
Bridging for Local Area Development (LADP)	07-Jul-10	31-Dec-17	384,882
Strengthening Urban and Regional Planning in KRG - Iraq	09-Sep-14	31-Mar-20	944,000
Local Area Development Programme II	01-Jan-15	31-Mar-20	2,101,048
Initial Framework for Reconstruction of Mosul, Iraq	01-Aug-18	31-Mar-20	159,326
SDG Climate Facility: Climate Action for Human Security - S1-32QXB-000503	16-Mar-19	31-Dec-23	50,000

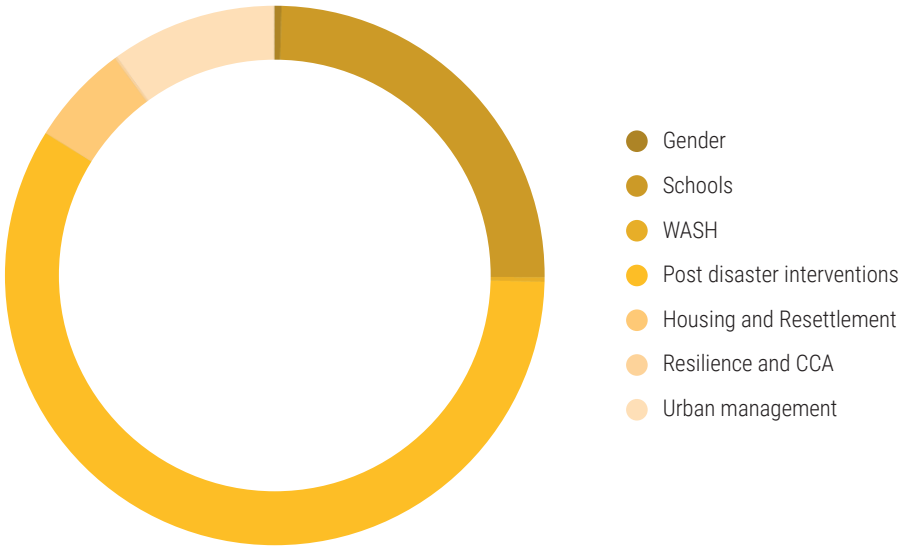
Annex 10: **Iraq CO Programme Portfolio –Thematic and budget distribution**

Iraq CO Programme portfolio – Thematic distribution



Source: PAAS

Iraq CO Programme portfolio budget distribution



Source: PAAS

Annex 11: **Egypt Country Programme – Projects in PAAS**

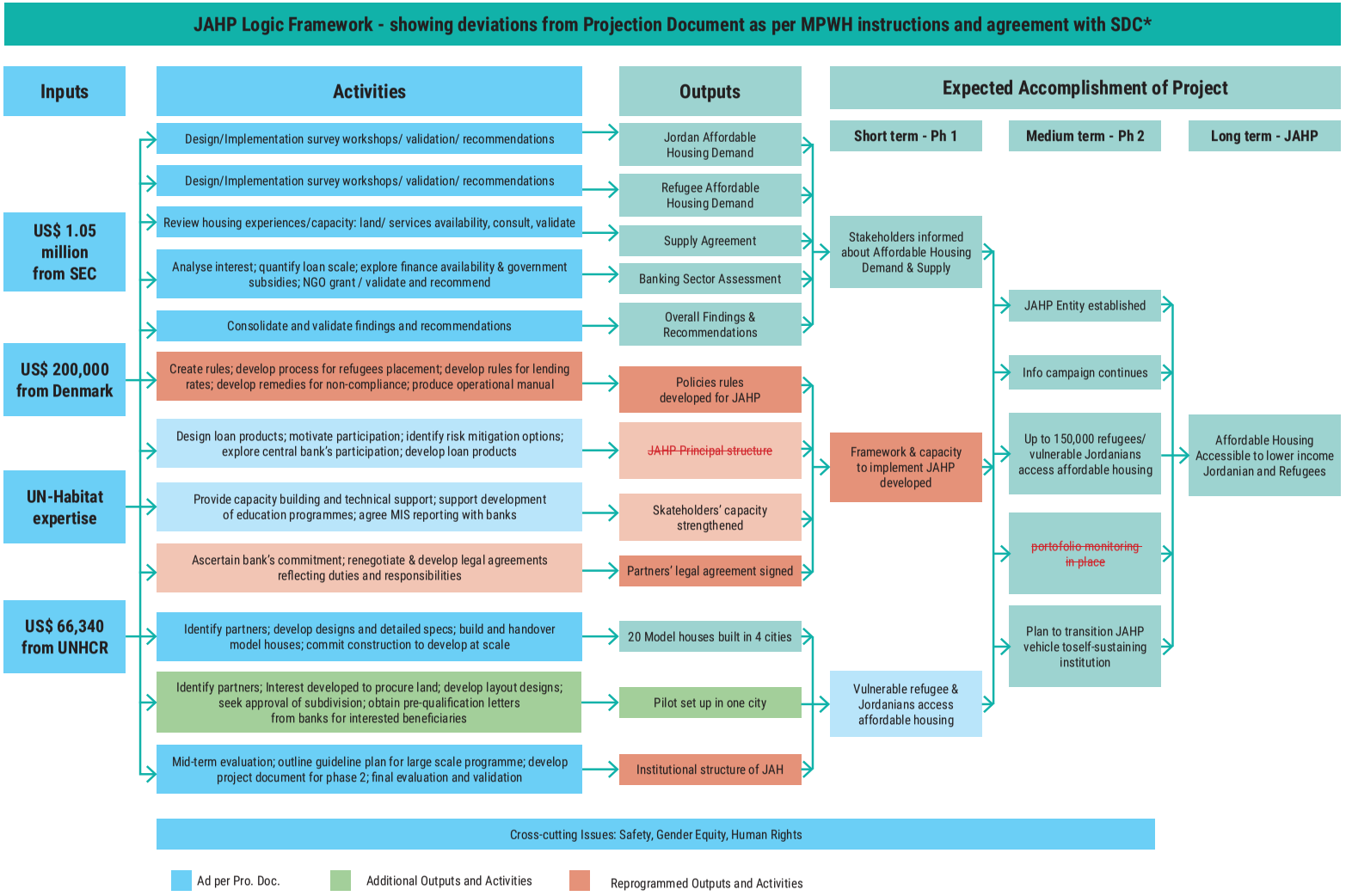
Project Title	Start Date	End Date	PAG Value
Housing and Slum Upgrading			
Safer Cities free of violence against Women and Girls - Greater Cairo Region, Egypt	01-Jun-12	31-Mar-20	90,000
Because I Am a Girl: Urban Programme - Greater Cairo Region, Egypt	01-Jul-12	31-Mar-20	23,750
Human Security through Inclusive Socio-economic Development in Upper Egypt	01-Jun-13	31-Mar-20	649,330
Integrative neighbourhood development in refugee hosting area, Faisal, Cairo	22-Jan-14	31-Dec-14	54,118
Participatory Citywide Urban Upgrading (PCWUU) in Egypt	14-Jun-17	13-Jun-23	901,261
Risk Reduction and Rehabilitation			
Integrative neighbourhood development in refugee hosting area, Faisal, Cairo	22-Jan-14	31-Dec-14	54,118
SDG Climate Facility: Climate Action for Human Security - S1-32QXB-000503	16-Mar-19	31-Dec-23	50,000
Urban Basic Services			
Strategic Urban Plans for Small Cities in Egypt	02-Oct-06	31-Oct-21	9,846,770
Achieving Sustainable Urban Development Priorities (ASUD) - Egypt	01-Oct-13	31-Mar-20	1,130,000
Human Security through Inclusive Socio-economic Development in Upper Egypt	01-Jun-13	31-Mar-20	649,330
Rapid Planning - Sustainable Infrastructure, Environmental and Resource Management for Highly Dynamic Metropolises	01-Apr-14	31-Mar-20	3,237,387
Strengthening Development Planning and Management in Greater Cairo (Component 2: Urban Mobility NUCA)	01-Aug-16	31-Dec-21	800,000
Strengthening Development Planning and Management in Greater Cairo (Component 3: Bike Sharing: Innovative Mobility for All)	01-Jun-16	05-Sep-20	1,429,608
Feasibility Study for Hayana: Integrated Urban Development Project in Egypt	01-May-16	31-Mar-20	150,000
Strengthening Development Planning and Management in Greater Cairo (Component 2: Urban Mobility UN Women)	20-Jul-17	20-May-20	450,000
Supporting Innovation in Water and Sanitation in Egypt: Clean Water for Integrated Local Development	01-Jun-18	31-Aug-21	3,220,000
Strategic Urban Plans for Small Cities in Egypt (Phase III)	01-Apr-19	31-Dec-22	1,963,500
BISCELETTA - Breaking mobility barriers and spreading awareness through bike sharing, Egypt	01-Jun-19	31-May-22	262,440
Urban Economy			
Because I Am a Girl: Urban Programme - Greater Cairo Region, Egypt	01-Jul-12	31-Mar-20	23,750
Achieving Sustainable Urban Development Priorities (ASUD) - Egypt	01-Oct-13	31-Mar-20	1,130,000
Human Security through Inclusive Socio-economic Development in Upper Egypt	01-Jun-13	31-Mar-20	649,330
Strengthening Development Planning and Management in Greater Cairo (Umbrella Project); Component 1: Urban Planning and Governance	09-Jun-16	31-Dec-21	1,000,000
Feasibility Study for Hayana: Integrated Urban Development Project in Egypt	01-May-16	31-Mar-20	150,000
Participatory Citywide Urban Upgrading (PCWUU) in Egypt	14-Jun-17	13-Jun-23	901,261
Hayana - Integrated Urban Development Project	30-Jun-17	31-Jul-24	8,100,000
Strategic Urban Plans for Small Cities in Egypt (Component 2: Strategic Urban Plan for Ras El Hekma)	02-Aug-18	09-Aug-20	750,000
Supporting Innovation in Water and Sanitation in Egypt: Clean Water for Integrated Local Development	01-Jun-18	31-Aug-21	3,220,000

Project Title	Start Date	End Date	PAG Value
Urban Land Legislation & Governance			
Strategic Urban Plans for Small Cities in Egypt	02-Oct-06	31-Oct-21	9,846,770
Strategic National Development Support Project - Egypt	01-Mar-09	31-Dec-20	3,644,018
Safer Cities free of violence against Women and Girls - Greater Cairo Region, Egypt	01-Jun-12	31-Mar-20	90,000
Achieving Sustainable Urban Development Priorities (ASUD) - Egypt	01-Oct-13	31-Mar-20	1,130,000
Participatory Citywide Urban Upgrading (PCWUU) in Egypt	14-Jun-17	13-Jun-23	901,261
Strengthening Development Planning and Management in Greater Cairo (Umbrella Project); Component 1: Urban Planning and Governance)	09-Jun-16	31-Dec-21	1,000,000
Feasibility Study for Hayana: Integrated Urban Development Project in Egypt	01-May-16	31-Mar-20	150,000
Hayana - Integrated Urban Development Project	30-Jun-17	31-Jul-24	8,100,000
Strategic Urban Plans for Small Cities in Egypt (Phase III)	01-Apr-19	31-Dec-22	1,963,500
Urban Planning and Design			
Strategic Urban Plans for Small Cities in Egypt	02-Oct-06	31-Oct-21	9,846,770
Strategic Development in Greater Cairo Region	01-Aug-08	31-Mar-20	2,150,000
Strategic National Development Support Project - Egypt	01-Mar-09	31-Dec-20	3,644,018
Because I Am a Girl: Urban Programme - Greater Cairo Region, Egypt	01-Jul-12	31-Mar-20	23,750
Urban Planning and Design (cont.)			
Achieving Sustainable Urban Development Priorities (ASUD) - Egypt	01-Oct-13	31-Mar-20	1,130,000
Rapid Planning - Sustainable Infrastructure, Environmental and Resource Management for Highly Dynamic Metropolises	01-Apr-14	31-Mar-20	3,237,387
Strengthening Development Planning and Management in Greater Cairo (Umbrella Project); Component 1: Urban Planning and Governance)	09-Jun-16	31-Dec-21	1,000,000
Feasibility Study for Hayana: Integrated Urban Development Project in Egypt	01-May-16	31-Mar-20	150,000
Participatory Citywide Urban Upgrading (PCWUU) in Egypt	14-Jun-17	13-Jun-23	901,261
Hayana - Integrated Urban Development Project	30-Jun-17	31-Jul-24	8,100,000
Strategic Urban Plans for Small Cities in Egypt (Component 2: Strategic Urban Plan for Ras El Hekma)	02-Aug-18	09-Aug-20	750,000
Strategic Urban Plans for Small Cities in Egypt (Phase III)	01-Apr-19	31-Dec-22	1,963,500
SDG Climate Facility: Climate Action for Human Security - S1-32QXB-000503	16-Mar-19	31-Dec-23	50,000

Annex 12: **Jordan Country Programme – Projects in PAAS**

Project Title	Start Date	End Date	PAG Value
All Projects			
UN-Habitat Office in Amman, Jordan	01-Oct-05	31-Dec-22	639,578
Strengthening Capacities of UN-HABITAT Amman Office	01-Jun-07	31-Mar-20	400,000
Mainstreaming biodiversity conservation in tourism sector development in Jordan	03-Aug-14	31-Mar-20	52,000
Jordan Affordable Housing Programme	18-Sep-14	31-Mar-20	1,251,098
Jordan Affordable Housing Programme (Swiss Contribution)	04-Jan-15	31-Mar-20	1,050,205
Jordan Affordable Housing Programme (UNHCR Funding)	01-Oct-15	31-Mar-20	66,340
Local Emergency management plans	15-Apr-16	31-Mar-20	139,876
Improving Sustainability of WASH Service Delivery in Za'atari and Azraq Refugee Camps.	01-Dec-17	15-Sep-20	100,000
Mediterranean City-to-City Migration (MC2CM) Phase II	01-Jun-18	31-Mar-22	6,942,857
Increasing the Resilience of Displaced Persons to Climate Change-related Water Challenges in Urban Host Settlements in Jordan and Lebanon	18-Dec-18	31-Dec-21	20,000
SDG Climate Facility: Climate Action for Human Security	16-Mar-19	31-Dec-23	50,000
Housing and Slum Upgrading			
Mediterranean City-to-City Migration (MC2CM) Phase II	01-Jun-18	31-Mar-22	6,942,857
Risk Reduction and Rehabilitation			
Jordan Affordable Housing Programme	18-Sep-14	31-Mar-20	1,251,098
Jordan Affordable Housing Programme (Swiss Contribution)	04-Jan-15	31-Mar-20	1,050,205
Jordan Affordable Housing Programme (UNHCR Funding)	01-Oct-15	31-Mar-20	66,340
Local Emergency Management Plans	15-Apr-16	31-Mar-20	139,876
Increasing the Resilience of Displaced Persons to Climate Change-related Water Challenges in Urban Host Settlements in Jordan and Lebanon	18-Dec-18	31-Dec-21	20,000
SDG Climate Facility: Climate Action for Human Security	16-Mar-19	31-Dec-23	50,000
Policy and Strategic Planning			
SDG Climate Facility: Climate Action for Human Security	16-Mar-19	31-Dec-23	50,000
Urban Planning and Design			
Mainstreaming biodiversity conservation in tourism sector development in Jordan	03-Aug-14	31-Mar-20	52,000
SDG Climate Facility: Climate Action for Human Security	16-Mar-19	31-Dec-23	50,000
Urban Basic Services			
Improving Sustainability of WASH Service Delivery in Za'atari and Azraq Refugee Camps.	01-Dec-17	15-Sep-20	100,000
Research and Capacity Development			
Mainstreaming biodiversity conservation in tourism sector development in Jordan	03-Aug-14	31-Mar-20	52,000
Local Emergency management plans	15-Apr-16	31-Mar-20	139,876
Local Emergency management plans	15-Apr-16	31-Mar-20	139,876
Management			
UN-Habitat Office in Amman, Jordan	01-Oct-05	31-Dec-22	639,578
Strengthening Capacities of UN-HABITAT Amman Office	01-Jun-07	31-Mar-20	400,000

Annex 13: **JAH Programme Logic Framework Diagram showing agreed upon amendments**



Source: JAH Programme Final Evaluation Report

Annex 14: **Housing Profiles and Policies and Slum Upgrading and Prevention Strategies and Programmes per Region**

	National Housing Sector	National Housing Policy		National Housing strategy	Local Housing Programme(s)	National Housing Programme	Building Code	Slum Upgrading and Prevention Policies or Strategies		Local PSUP	Other operational interventions
	profile	developed	adopted	developed	developed2	developed3	developed4	national	local	implemented	implemented5
Africa	15	14	9	6	0	3	6	11	5	16	9
Arab States	5	5	1	2	1	0	1	3	1	3	4
Asia & the Pacific	5	7	2	4	1	1	3	5	3	5	6
Europe	1	3	1	0	1	0	2	2	0	0	0
Latin America & the Caribbean	5	5	2	2	2	0	0	2	1	0	1
Total	**30**	**34**	**15**	**14**	**5**	**4**	**12**	**23**	**10**	**23**	**21**

Annex 15: **Housing Profiles, Policies and Programmes, and Slum Upgrading and Prevention Strategies and Programmes per Country**

	National Housing Sector	National Housing Policy		National Housing Strategy	Local Housing Programme(s)	National Housing Programme	Building Code	Slum Upgrading and Prevention Policies or Strategies		Local PSUP	Other operational interventions
	profile	developed	adopted	developed	developed2	developed3	developed4	national	local	implemented	implemented5
Egypt	2016	2019									
Iraq		2018	2018	2019	3 cities (Erbil)		2017	2019		Kurani Ainkawa	✓
Jordan											✓
Kuwait								✓			
Lebanon	✓	✓									
Libya	✓										
Palestine	2013	2012		2012							✓
Saudi Arabia		2016						✓	✓	✓	✓
Sudan		2016								Nyala (2012)	
Syrian Arab Rep.											
Tunisia	2011										
Total	**4**	**5**	**1**	**2**	**1**	**0**	**1**	**3**	**1**	**3**	**4**

Annex 16: **CO Questionnaire Responses – Iraq, Egypt, Lebanon, Palestine, Saudi Arabia**

Part 1. Housing Approach relevance

How would you rate the relevance of the UN-Habitat Housing Approach to:	Iraq	Egypt	Lebanon	Palestine	Saudi Arabia
National government priorities and approaches	High	Moderate			High
Local government priorities and approaches	High	Low	High	High	High
Country partners priorities and approaches (INGOs, IFIs, development agencies, other UN agencies,...)	High	High	Moderate	High	
Private sector priorities and approaches	Low	Low	High		
Local teaching institutions (e.g., universities, research institutions, etc.), expert views (academia, media, ...)	Low	High	High		
NGO / INGO priorities and approaches	Moderate		Moderate	Moderate	None
Housing sector situation (housing deficit, inadequacy, policies and programmes shortcomings, ...)	High		High		High
Low income population needs	High	High	High		
Slum dwellers needs	High	High	High	Moderate	High
Middle income households needs	Moderate	Moderate	High	Moderate	

Part 2. Added values of UN-Habitat

How would you rate the acknowledged added value of UN-Habitat to address adequate housing issues at your country level:	Iraq	Egypt	Lebanon	Palestine	Saudi Arabia
Expertise in advocating on adequate housing issues at global level	Moderate	High	High	Low	Moderate
Expertise in supporting housing policy, legal and constitutional reforms (i.e. providing policy advice)	High	Moderate	Moderate	Moderate	Moderate
Expertise on the adaptation of global frameworks (SDG, NUA, …) to the country level	High	Moderate	Moderate	Moderate	Moderate
Expertise on the adaptation of global frameworks (SDG, NUA, …) to the local level	High	Low	High	Moderate	Moderate
Expertise in management of knowledge related to housing (e.g. best practices, evidence-based reports, …)	High	Moderate	High	Moderate	High
Expertise in building capacities of national governments and partners (technical assistance and trainings)	High	High	Moderate	Moderate	High
Expertise in building capacities of local governments (i.e. technical assistance and trainings)	High	High	High	Moderate	Moderate
Expertise on the development and implementation of housing strategies and programs at national level	High	High	High	Moderate	Moderate
Expertise on the development and implementation of housing strategies and programmes at local level	High		High	Moderate	Moderate
Expertise in supporting dialogue among country housing sector stakeholders	High	High	Moderate	Moderate	High
Expertise in facilitating dialogue between country and international housing sector stakeholders (INGOs, IFIs, development agencies, other UN agencies, etc.)	High	Low	High	Moderate	Not relevant
Expertise in advocating on housing rights at country level	High	Low	High	Moderate	Moderate
Expertise in promoting alternatives to forced evictions	Moderate	Low	High	Low	Moderate
Expertise in economy-related housing issues (e.g. employment, construction, loans, …)	Moderate	None	Moderate	Low	Not relevant
Expertise in land-related housing issues	Moderate	High	High	Moderate	Not relevant
Expertise in slum upgrading and prevention strategies and interventions	High	High	High	Low	Moderate
Expertise in post-crisis interventions	High	Not relevant	Moderate	Moderate	Not relevant
Expertise in new housing production (i.e. support construction programmes/projects)	High	None	Moderate	Moderate	Not relevant
Expertise in links between housing and poverty	Moderate	Moderate	High	Low	Not relevant

Part 3. Most significant outcomes of the Housing Approach

Which kinds of intervention (max. 3) have had the greater impact toward political commitment to the realization of adequate housing rights for all in your country?	Iraq	Egypt	Lebanon	Palestine	Saudi Arabia
Advocacy at global level (promotion of the realization of the right to adequate housing and of alternatives to forced evictions)					
Production of evidence-based reports and technical guides at global level					✓
Mobilization of networks at global level					
Organization of events at global level (e.g. WUFs, Habitat III meetings, ...)					
Advocacy at country level (promotion of the realization of the right to adequate housing)			✓		
Production of knowledge on country housing sector (e.g., national urban profiles, national/urban housing profiles)		✓	✓		
Provision of knowledge on adequate housing (e.g. innovation, best practices, lessons learned, ..)		✓	✓		✓
Dialogue between country housing stakeholders	✓			✓	
Technical assistance and capacity building	✓	✓		✓	
Demonstration through pilot housing project implementation	✓			✓	✓
Which kinds of intervention (max. 3) have had the greatest impact toward improved housing frameworks in your country?					
Advocacy at global level (promotion of the realization of the right to adequate housing and of alternatives to forced evictions)					
Production of evidence-based reports and technical guides at global level			✓		✓
Mobilization of networks at global level					
Organization of events at global level (e.g. WUFs, Habitat III meetings, ...)					
Advocacy at national/local level (promotion of the realization of the right to adequate housing)			✓		✓
Production of knowledge on local housing sector		✓	✓		
Provision of knowledge on adequate housing (e.g. innovation, best practices, lessons learned, ..)			✓		✓
Mobilization of networks (e.g., National Housing Committees)/Dialogue between country housing stakeholder		✓		✓	
Policy advice (e.g. recommendations and support on housing framework reforms)		✓			
Which kinds of intervention (max. 3) have had the greater direct impact toward increased access to adequate housing in your country?					
Retrofit, rehabilitation or reconstruction of housing damaged by conflict or disasters.				✓	
Slum upgrading interventions					✓

Which kinds of intervention (max. 3) have had the greater impact toward political commitment to the realization of adequate housing rights for all in your country?	Iraq	Egypt	Lebanon	Palestine	Saudi Arabia
New housing units construction				✓	
Technical assistance to cities to design and implement strategies					
Technical assistance to national authorities to design and implement strategies		✓			✓
Support the improvement of building codes and others housing regulatory frameworks					
Support to INGOs, NGOS or CBOs initiatives					
Technical assistance to cities to design and implement programmes/projects		✓			✓
Technical assistance to national authorities to design and implement programmes/projects		✓			

Part 4. Most significant impacts of the Housing Approach

Since 2008, what have been the most significant impacts brought by UN-Habitat on adequate housing issues?	Iraq	Egypt	Lebanon	Palestine	Saudi Arabia
Knowledge has been produced and shared on the country housing sector.		✓	✓		
Government is now promoting equitable access to adequate housing for all,	✓	✓			✓
Government adopted improved national housing legal and regulatory frameworks,					
Government has implemented pro-poor land and housing programmes/projects	✓				✓
Government expenditures on social or community housing has raised,				✓	✓
External development assistance for housing has raised,					
The provision of adequate housing opportunities at scale has raised,					✓
Government has implemented slum prevention and upgrading policies,					
Local authorities have implemented city-wide slum prevention and upgrading policies,	✓				
The living conditions in several existing slums have improved,	✓				
The proportion of the urban population living in slums has reduced,					
The number of slum dwellers has reduced,					
The access to land and housing and increased,				✓	
The number of forced evictions has reduced,					
The adequate housing options have diversified,					
The access to adequate housing has improved for all.					

Since 2008, what have been the most significant impacts brought by UN-Habitat on adequate housing issues?	Iraq	Egypt	Lebanon	Palestine	Saudi Arabia
Since 2008, what have been the most significant impacts brought by UN-Habitat on poverty reduction?					
The access to affordable housing has increased for all.					✓
The security of tenure for low-income households has improved.			✓		✓
The access to basic services for low-income households has improved			✓	✓	
The access to economic opportunities for low-income households has improved					
The access to adequate housing for female headed households has improved				✓	
The access to adequate housing for youth has improved				✓	
The proportion of the population that receive public housing assistance have raised					
The social inclusion and integration at city-wide scale is improved					✓
The spatial inequality at city-wide scale is reduced				✓	✓
What have been the most easily achievable impacts for UN-Habitat in terms of adequate housing in your country?					
Production and sharing of knowledge on the country housing sector.		Difficult	Difficult	Neutral	Easy
Government promotion of equitable access to adequate housing for all,		Easy	Very difficult		Unintended Impact
Government adoption of improved national housing legal and regulatory framework,		Very difficult	Very difficult		Easy
Government implementation of pro-poor land and housing programmes/projects,			Very difficult		Easy
Government implementation of slum prevention and upgrading policies,			Very difficult		Difficult
Local authorities implementation of city-wide slum prevention and upgrading policies,			Very difficult		Difficult
Provision of adequate housing to crisis affected population			Difficult	Difficult	
Improvement of living conditions in several existing slums,			Difficult		Difficult

Part 5. Impact Monitoring

To what extent are the following existing systems relevant to assess the realization of adequate housing rights at your country level?	Iraq	Egypt	Lebanon	Palestine	Saudi Arabia
Systems			Highly relevant	Moderately relevant	Highly relevant
SDG	Moderately relevant	Moderately relevant	Highly relevant	Moderately relevant	Highly relevant
National statistical data	Poorly relevant	Moderately relevant	Moderately relevant		Moderately relevant
Local urban observatory	Not relevant at all		Highly relevant	Highly relevant	
UN-Habitat Housing programme/project databases	Highly relevant		Highly relevant		
Universal Periodic Review / Special Rapporteur on adequate housing reports	Not relevant at all				
UN-Habitat report on housing at country level (specify)		Highly relevant	Moderately relevant		
Other report on housing at regional level (specify)		Highly relevant	Highly relevant		
To what extent are the following existing systems relevant to assess the impact of UN-Habitat on adequate housing at your country level?					
Systems					
SDG	Moderately relevant	Moderately relevant	Moderately relevant	Moderately relevant	
National statistical data	Not relevant at all	Poorly relevant	Highly relevant	Moderately relevant	
Local urban observatory	Not relevant at all		Highly relevant		Moderately relevant
UN-Habitat Housing programme/project databases	Highly relevant	Highly relevant	Moderately relevant		Moderately relevant
UN-Habitat Housing programme/project reports and evaluation	Highly relevant	Highly relevant	Highly relevant		Moderately relevant
Universal Periodic Review / Special Rapporteur on adequate housing reports	Not relevant at all		Highly relevant	Moderately relevant	
UN-Habitat report on housing at country level (specify)		Highly relevant			
Other report on housing at regional level (specify)		Moderately relevant			

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@UNHABITAT

United Nations Human Settlements Programme (UN-Habitat)
P.O.Box 30030, 00100 Nairobi GPO KENYA
infohabitat@unhabitat.org

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