

# CITIES INVESTMENT FACILITY



BIANNUAL NEWSLETTER

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UN-HABITAT

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*The Cities Investment Facility (CIF) is a multi-stakeholder initiative that strives to unlock significant capital flows to inclusive, sustainable urbanization projects. Through the three pillars – Cities Investment Portal, a structure projects at the (pre)feasibility stage to become “financeable” and connect them with investors. By convening and preparing a pipeline of SDG-compliant financeable infrastructure projects, this new facility, makes a significant contribution to achieving the UN’s Agenda 2030.*

 @cif\_org (Cities Investment Facility)  
 Cities Investment Facility  
 <https://citiesinvestmentfacility.org>

## EDITOR'S NOTE

# FOREWORD



This Newsletter picks from the last issue No. 3 of December 2022, highlighting the achievements of the Cities Investment Facility in the first half of 2023.

This year, Cities Investment Facility is preparing the following projects:

Project Name	Region	Country
1. Affordable Housing Solutions for Pune	Asia and the Pacific	India
2. Kisumu City Lakefront Development Initiative	Africa	Kenya
3. Iskandar Malaysia Smart Integrated Mobility Management System (SIMMS)	Asia and the Pacific	Malaysia
4. Ormoc City Urban Waterscape Project	Asia and the Pacific	Philippines

This edition highlights the Joint Lakefront Initiative Project as implemented in Lake Victoria counties of Kisumu and Homabay in Kenya. This project is jointly prepared by Gensler, Resilient Catalyst Cities, UN-Habitat, and the Joint Lakefront Initiative Secretariat. This framework of collaboration is outlined from the perspectives of Ms. Alice Odera, Coordinator-Joint Lakefront Planning and Development Initiative Pioneer Director of Communications Head of Sustainability-Kisumu Lakefront Development Corporation, Mr. Jeremiah Ougo, Urban Planner, Regional Office for Africa, UN-Habitat, and Mr. Oliver, Principal and Global Cities and Urban Design Resilience Leader, Gensler.

This project was also showcased at the recently concluded UN-Habitat Business Roundtable that brought together over 130 Private Sector entities from all over the world including Turkiye, United Arab Emirates, Kenya, Nigeria, Philippines, China, and many more. The event was held in the margins of the Second United Nations Habitat Assembly on 3 June, 2023 in Nairobi, Kenya.

To support the preparation of these and other projects that will be sourced in future, the Facility has conceptualized the Feasibility Fund. The progress to set up this Fund is also detailed in this Newsletter.

Along with these updates, please remember to join us in our upcoming events during Urban October.

This issue also highlights the upcoming Urban October 2023 whose themes will revolve around Sustainable Finance.

Please remember to join us in Baku, Azerbaijan for the World Habitat Day on 2 October 2023 and in Istanbul, Turkiye on 31 October 2023 for the World Cities Day!

**Ms. Maimunah Mohd Sharif**

Under-Secretary-General and Executive Director, United Nations Human Settlements Programme (UN-Habitat)

# BUSINESS ROUNDTABLE

The roundtable brought together 130 participants from the private sector, philanthropies, investors, local governments, and member states on the theme *'Make it Happen in Cities'* to share concrete solutions and explore ways to leverage private sector expertise and resources to support the implementation of UN-Habitat's New Urban Agenda and the Sustainable Development Goals.

In his opening remarks, Michal Mlynar, Deputy Executive Director of UN-Habitat, highlighted the role of businesses and industries as fundamental players in sustainable urbanization. "We know that without you, it won't happen in cities. Because we know that you have the power to catalyze the potential of cities for positive change and innovation,"

Neil Khor, Director of External Relations, Strategy, Knowledge, and Innovation (ERSKI), presented UN-Habitat's collaboration with the private sector, building on businesses' and industries' expertise and their power to innovate and implement.

During the debate on **financing and affordability**, participants discussed key challenges in attracting private resources towards financing sustainable urban development and affordability in the current multi-crisis environment. They agreed that current economic uncertainty, market volatility, and shifting investor preferences have made it challenging to attract private resources for sustainable urban development.

They discussed the lack of sufficient financial incentives or regulatory frameworks that hinder private-sector involvement.

Achieving affordability in sustainable urban development is challenging due to high initial costs, limited access to affordable financing, and the need to balance cost considerations with sustainability objectives. Effective coordination among stakeholders, including governments, businesses, financial institutions, and communities, is crucial but often takes more work.

They offered several solutions and recommendations:

- Ensuring clear policies, regulations, and incentives that encourage private investment in sustainable urban development, developing risk mitigation instruments to help de-risk investments, and making sustainable projects more attractive to private investors.
- Fostering public-private partnerships that bring together government entities, private sector expertise, and community stakeholders to leverage the strengths and resources of each sector to finance and implement sustainable urban development projects.
- Expanding innovative financing mechanisms at the City Investment Facility of UN-Habitat, tailored to the specific needs of sustainable urban development, to mobilize private capital towards sustainable projects.



Photos © Henry Sadiki



01 Executive Director, UN-Habitat, Ms. Maimunah Mohd Sharif, at the Business Roundtable on June 3, 2023, Nairobi, Kenya

02 Deputy Executive Director, UN-Habitat, Michal Mlynar, and Dr. Neil, Director, a.i. External Relations, Strategy, Knowledge, and Innovation Division, Special Advisor to the Executive Director at the Opening Session of the Business Roundtable on June 3, 2023, Nairobi, Kenya

03 Hon. Gladys Wanga, Governor, Homabay County, Kenya, and Dr. Neil, Director, a.i. External Relations, Strategy, Knowledge, and Innovation Division, Special Advisor to the Executive Director at the Opening Session of the Business Roundtable on June 3, 2023, Nairobi, Kenya

04 Executive Director, UN-Habitat, Ms. Maimunah Mohd Sharif, and Ms. Luiza Helena Trajano, Chairperson of the Magazine Luiza, at the Business Roundtable during the Engagement Stage, on June 3, 2023, Nairobi, Kenya



Photos © Henry Sadiki

05 Türkiye Delegation, June 3, 2023, Nairobi, Kenya

06 Damien Thibon- UN-Habitat, Ms. Luiza Helena Trajano, Chairperson of the Magazine Luíza, Faith Cheptoo, UN-Habitat, June 3, 2023, Nairobi, Kenya

07 Erastus Njuki, Coordinator, Cities Investment Facility, UN-Habitat, June 3, 2023, Nairobi, Kenya

08 Philippines Delegation, June 3, 2023, Nairobi, Kenya

09 Christine Auclair, Coordinator, World Urban Campaign, UN-Habitat, June 3, 2023, Nairobi, Kenya

10 Ms. Ezlina Binti Adnan, Head of Division, Corporate Affairs, PR1MA Corporation, Malaysia, and Dyfed Aubrey, Inter-Regional Advisor, SDG Cities, UN-Habitat, June 3, 2023, Nairobi, Kenya

11 Henry Sadiki, Donah Kigunda, Faith Cheptoo, Wandia Karani, Mark Gallagher- Cities Investment Team, June 3, 2023, Nairobi, Kenya

12 Bilateral Meeting with Ms. Luiza Helena Trajano's Team and Ms. Maimunah Mohd Sharif, June 3, 2023, Nairobi, Kenya

13 Christine Auclair, Coordinator, World Urban Campaign, UN-Habitat, June 3, 2023, Nairobi, Kenya

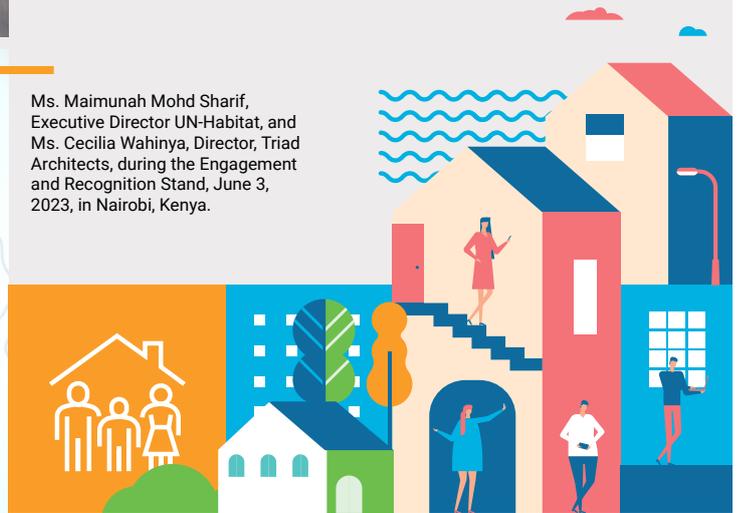
14 ADEC Innovation Team, June 3, 2023, Nairobi, Kenya



Ms. Cecilia Wahinya, Director, Triad Architects, Ms. Luiza Helena Trajano, Chairperson of the Magazine Luíza, Ms. Maimunah Mohd Sharif, Executive Director UN-Habitat, Ticiania Rolim de Quiroz, President, Somos Umamã Partner, C. RoLim Engenharia, and Mr. Alex Francisco, Global Programme Manager, Shelter Programme, Arcadis, June 3 2023, Nairobi, Kenya.



Ms. Maimunah Mohd Sharif, Executive Director UN-Habitat, and Ms. Cecilia Wahinya, Director, Triad Architects, during the Engagement and Recognition Stand, June 3, 2023, in Nairobi, Kenya.



## FEATURED PROJECT: KISUMU CITY LAKEFRONT DEVELOPMENT INITIATIVE

ADVANCING SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT GOALS THROUGH THE LENS OF HUMAN EXPERIENCE



Photo © Henry Sadiki

**Oliver Schaper, Principal and Global Cities and Urban Design Resilience Leader Gensler**

Alice Odera, Joint Lakefront Planning and Development Initiative Pioneer Director of Communications Head of Sustainability-Kisumu Lakefront Development Corporation, Konstantina Karyd, Senior Advisor Resilient Cities Catalyst, Abala Wanga, City Manager Kisumu Interim Chair Joint Lakefront Planning & Development Initiative, Oliver Schaper, Gensler, Principal and Global Cities and Urban Design Resilience Leader, Gensler, and Thabo Lenneye, UN-Habitat, Erastus Njuki, Coordinator, Cities Investment Facility, UN-Habitat, June 3 2023, Nairobi, Kenya.

## A FUTURE CITY FRAMEWORK VISION

The Business Roundtable on the fringes of the Second Session of the UN-Habitat Assembly on June 3 in Nairobi, Kenya, convened attendees from around the world to discuss issues related to affordable housing, climate action, urban crisis recovery, and the localization of Sustainable Development Goals (SDG) and promote a process towards investment readiness. A new sustainable development and urban planning concept was unveiled at the Business Roundtable.

The Joint Lakefront Planning and Development Initiative is an agreement to create an integrated vision for Kenya's Victoria Lake Waterfront, with an initial focus on Kisumu and Homabay Counties. The intent is to promote the sustainable use of Lake Victoria, showcasing the region's ability to lead in waterfront design, community development, economic development, environmental awareness, technology, culture, and the arts while positioning the region as a model for socio-economic development. The plan will include infrastructure improvements, creating housing, revitalizing tourism, economic development, and meeting challenges in the region for current and future generations.

This framework can support community impact projects and intensify future global development opportunities while exploring financial mechanisms to achieve work of this scale. As a project participating in the UN-Habitat's Cities Investment Platform (CIF), this crucial joint initiative is critical to helping to advance the SDGs.

As an advisor to CIF working closely with the Resilient Cities Catalyst (RCC), a fellow advisor and partner in this project, we had an opportunity to learn from attendees in addition to sharing our ideas for this vision of a Joint Lakefront Development with the UN-Habitat leadership and representatives of Homa Bay and Kisumu, including Governor Gladys Wangari and Kisumu City Manager Abala M. Wangari. The engagement of global leaders at the Business Roundtable contributes to our partnership with local governments and communities. All stakeholders benefit from a contextual lens, shared understanding, and a general sense of alignment to drive innovative solutions forward. CIF is working to enable necessary partnerships and remove obstacles to success in preparation for the start of this revitalization.



Alice Odera, Joint Lakefront Planning and Development Initiative.

Pioneer Director of Communications Head of Sustainability- Kisumu Lakefront Development Corporation, Jeremiah Ougo, Urban Planner, Regional Office for Africa, UN-Habitat, Mark Gallagher, Sustainable Finance Officer, Cities Investment Facility, UN-Habitat, during a bilateral meeting on the Kisumu Lakefront Development Initiative, June 3, 2023, Nairobi, Kenya.



Thabo Lenneiyi, UN-Habitat, Oliver Schaper, Gensler, Principal and Global Cities and Urban Design Resilience Leader, Gensler, and Konstantina Karyd, Senior Advisor Resilient Cities Catalyst, during a bilateral meeting on the Kisumu Lakefront Development Initiative, June 3, 2023, Nairobi, Kenya.

**These meetings culminated in a comprehensive scoping document outlining the necessary next steps to propel the project to new heights.**

## An Emerging Practice: Creating a Vision Focused on Human Experience

At Gensler, our equitable design and development strategy includes taking actions that create opportunities for underserved communities worldwide. To meet this challenge in Kisumu and Homa Bay, we have developed a concept called "Urban Regional Human Experience Visioning," which will strive to remove barriers to sustainable development both short- and long-term, principally by creating alignment of purpose and focusing on development strategies that will ultimately benefit all stakeholders, while contributing to the advancement of SDGs. As a model for purposeful planning, a balanced assessment of ecological, social, economic, and governance considerations will pair with establishing metrics of success that implements at a scale beyond this initiative in Kenya.

Partnerships between public and private organizations are integral to advancing the SDGs. This includes balancing regional vision and community engagement to meet the needs of Kenya's Victoria Lakefront region and create a network of local destinations. The visioning process will develop clear and actionable strategies and an experience blueprint to guide all future planning decisions. Local capacity building around technical expertise is also a key strategy, in addition to benchmarking against relevant urban and cultural experience trends on a global scale.

## Acting Locally and Globally

Today's cities are going through a period of massive transformation. The dated concept of single-use urban districts gives way to the idea that regions should be made-up of ecosystems of multigenerational, multi-use 20-minute neighborhoods.

To achieve this vision, cities, and regions must embrace new forms of mobility and invest in attainable multifamily housing. Environmental, social, and governance (ESG) strategies must also be a priority. Cities of the future can evolve into a collection of safe, affordable, and connected communities that make urban

living a great experience. A thoughtful design connecting nature, technology, and people will lead to resilience—places rooted in local culture are catalysts for socially sustainable urban transformation.

The design will be a distinct element in creating scalable solutions in partnership with investment funding and policies that advance the SDGs. We are grateful to the delegation of attendees at the Business Roundtable for sharing ideas that will have a significant economic development impact on Kenya and help grow the impact of UN-Habitat's Cities Investment Facility.

## REIMAGINING LAKEFRONT

**Alice Odera, Coordinator-Joint Lakefront Planning and Development Initiative, Pioneer Director of Communications Head of Sustainability- Kisumu Lakefront Development Corporation**



Abala Wanga, City Manager Kisumu Interim Chair Joint Lakefront Planning & Development Initiative, Alice Odera, Joint Lakefront Planning and Development Initiative, Pioneer Director of Communications Head of Sustainability- Kisumu Lakefront Development Corporation, Jeremiah Ougo, Urban Planner, Regional Office for Africa, UN-Habitat, June 3, 2023, Nairobi, Kenya.

Alice Odera, Joint Lakefront Planning and Development Initiative, Pioneer Director of Communications Head of Sustainability- Kisumu Lakefront Development Corporation, Konstantina Karyd, Senior Advisor Resilient Cities Catalyst, Abala Wanga, City Manager Kisumu Interim Chair Joint Lakefront Planning & Development Initiative, Oliver Schaper, Gensler, Principal and Global Cities and Urban Design Resilience Leader, Gensler, and Thabo Lenneye, UN-Habitat, June 3 2023, Nairobi, Kenya.

There is a new catalytic momentum in the Lake Region of Kenya, and at the center of this energy is Lake Victoria, the largest tropical lake in the world and the largest freshwater lake in Africa.

I had the opportunity to participate as a panelist and showcase the Kisumu Lakefront Development Initiative at the Cities Investment Facility Business Roundtable, which provided an opportunity for business leaders, Member States, and stakeholders to discuss the potential and benefits for cities to achieve the SDGs by attracting private resources towards financing sustainable urban development and affordability. They exchanged high-impact initiatives that will accelerate progress in the SDG implementation, highlighting the critical role of the private sector, donors, and governments.

Undoubtedly, the Lakefront presents unlimited opportunities and forms a strong business case for an unprecedented development opportunity that integrates solutions to the environmental, transportation, infrastructure, social, economic, and tourism challenges confronting the five riparian counties (Migori, Busia, Homabay, Kisumu, Siaya). Kisumu is the principal city of western Kenya and forms the commercial, industrial, and transportation center, majorly due to its water, road, air, and rail connections.

In as much as; it has become a bit of a cliché to speak excitedly about infrastructure and waterfront development in Kenya and Africa. The potential for a transport, logistics, agricultural, and manufacturing hub due to the presence of an international airport and shipping port that serves the great lakes, not



forgetting the rail and transboundary road network, makes it a favorite regional investment destination.

The region owes its existence, expansion, and prosperity to its lakefront combined synergies and the development of an agency (Kisumu Lakefront Development Corporation) and (Joint Lakefront Planning and Development Initiative) to focus solely on the redevelopment and regeneration of its Lakefront sets the stage for economic prosperity.

However, we face an enormous challenge regarding funding these audacious ideas because counties need more economic/financial tools to attract investment, drive economic development, and impact their citizens.

For the county governments, the biggest challenge is developing a compelling vision and a galvanizing concept to create value and drive an economic model through the urban development process.

It was refreshing and affirming to listen to different stakeholders encourage collaboration and the formation of regional ecosystems to help attract investors and catalytic capital. Several practical issues have been a real pain point for our team, which involves moving from the concept phase to implementation through the proof of concept and addressing funding constraints through partnerships and collaboration.

One key takeaway was that senior government leaders are the custodians of their counties' and regions' economic growth strategies and reputations must be the foundation of any effort to attract investments. The impact at stake in

investment attraction efforts makes the role of government leadership critical.

Great emphasis on the fact that government must utilize its convening power to create partnerships and deliver symbiotic results between different stakeholders to drive regional economic and capacity development, be it institutional, technical, or sectoral.

The importance of legal and governance structures; needs to be in place, especially for collaborative projects (Public Private Partnerships) of an appropriate scale to provide certainty and security to the investment community. They are underscoring the power of data, analytics, and intelligence and how to leverage civic assets and support harnessing the full range of potential funding.

Coupled with a clear vision for growth, a broad coalition of partners in place, and government-led economic development efforts need to craft a powerful story for investors and development partners, one that convinces them that there will be a robust return on investment, unlock the power of markets and boost economic growth.

It was an eye-opening and informative roundtable; I realized the importance of a compelling story and a strong focus on investment promotion and marketing initiatives that can unlock game-changing investments for impact.

In other words, our cities, counties, and regions are an engine of economic growth that the lake region needs urgently. The extent to which we can harness our natural competitive advantage and develop it sustainably will determine our future prosperity.

## KENYAN CITIES INVEST IN REVENUE GENERATION THROUGH LAKEFRONT PLANNING & DEVELOPMENT.

**Jeremiah Ougo, Urban Planner, Regional Office for Africa, UN-Habitat**

The Second United Nations Habitat Assembly Business Roundtable, organized by the Cities Investment Facility (CIF) on June 3, 2023, ahead of the official sessions of the Assembly, brought together governors, mayors, private sector investors, innovators, and national government officials to discuss the potential and benefits for cities to achieve the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) in the light of pressing global issues such as climate change and building resilience.

At the Roundtable's *"Financing and Affordability Debate,"* Kenya's Homa Bay and Kisumu counties showcased lakefront planning and development as a high-impact initiative with the potential to accelerate progress in SDG implementation, especially at a local level. The Governor of Homa Bay County, Hon. Gladys Wanga, demonstrated the benefits of investing in the planning and development of Kenya's Lake Victoria shoreline and the revenue generation nexus. Despite having Lake Victoria shoreline within their jurisdiction, the counties need more technical and financial capacity to develop and package high-impact projects to guide potential investment within the Lakefront.

The Business Roundtable provided a platform for cities to network with business leaders and UN-Habitat experts to establish synergies towards future projects, further highlighting the critical role of private sector players, innovators, and operators in public-private partnerships for sustainable urban development in cities around the world and demonstrating the importance of Public-Private Partnerships (PPPs) in the promotion of high-value projects such as the lakefront planning and development initiative in Kenya.

Planning of barren land along Lake Victoria riparian counties through PPPs could raise the value of the land if basic infrastructure, such as roads, is provided and utilities, such as water and sewer, are installed. The land value would then rise, leading to higher revenues; for such properties. Ordinarily, planned construction would follow since investors are attracted to high-value parcels of land with higher investment returns! This construction would create jobs and additional livelihood opportunities for local communities. This falls among the notable trends and emerging practices in sustainable urban finance.

In a previous PPP effort, UN-Habitat, partnered with the County of Kisumu to provide technical support in planning the Kisumu Lakefront. The partnership known as the Kisumu Lakefront Planning and Development Initiative had capacity-building sessions and rapid planning studios where local communities and stakeholders, including members of county assemblies, county technical staff, women fish traders, and hotel owners, were engaged in participatory planning, adding their voices on how the Lakefront should look. Ultimately, the technical teams retreated into the UN-Habitat Design Lab and prepared the lakefront conceptual designs - 'turning the city to face the lake' and bringing life to the hitherto derelict Lakefront. The designs formed a detailed layout plan for the County to allocate parcels of land for development at the Lakefront.

***"By leveraging cities' expertise and innovative capabilities, sustainable urban development can be achieved to ensure we leave no one behind."***

***Governor Gladys Wanga and Dr. Neil Khor***



Upon completion of the conceptual designs, the technical teams proposed a governance framework; in the form of a special-purpose vehicle. It was named the Kisumu Lakefront Development Corporation. Its roles were: defined, and terms of reference were prepared and approved by stakeholders. The County would then establish a special vehicle's composition while anchoring it within the existing legal regime. This happened under the political leadership of Kisumu Governor Prof. Peter Anyang' Nyong'o.

Looking forward, the Kisumu Lakefront Development Initiative is currently among various global projects packaged to attract investor funding under the Cities Investment Facility (CIF) that UN-Habitat and international financial partners coordinate. The Homa Bay lakefront is building upon the experiences of Kisumu and will likely join the package as part of a broader project promotion scope.

The key takeaways and highlights from the Business Roundtable discussions are that PPPs are strategic tools for attracting global investors and private resources towards financing sustainable urban development at the sub-national level, where technical and financial capacity remain low.

# EVENTS:

## PREVIOUS EVENTS AND NEWS

### Signing the letter of intent, Ms. Luiza Helena Trajano, Chairperson of the Magazine Luíza, and Ms. Maimunah Mohd Sharif, UN-Habitat's Executive Director

Ms. Luiza Helena Trajano, Chairperson of the Magazine Luíza, and Ms. Maimunah Mohd Sharif, UN-Habitat's Executive Director, signed a letter of intent during the Business Roundtable. The collaboration will contribute to the following:

- Economic empowerment: Improved economic opportunities for women through inclusive regulatory frameworks, increased investments in urban infrastructure (including markets, processing units and factories, transport, and energy projects), and incubating and financing women-led businesses through grants, loans, and guarantees.
- Better places to live that are free of violence and harassment: Improved and safer urban environments through women- and child-friendly spaces, shelter homes, safe mobility with affordable and efficient public transportation, accessible and affordable housing and health facilities, clean water, and sanitation, and overall higher standards of living for women; and
- Political empowerment: Improved engagement in local decision-making processes, including empowering women mayors as agents of transformative change.



Executive Director, UN-Habitat, Ms. Maimunah Mohd Sharif, and Ms. Luiza Helena Trajano, Chairperson of the Magazine Luíza, signing the Letter of Intent, June 3, 2023, Nairobi, Kenya

### New Implementing Partner for CIF: The signing of the South Pole MOU

The United Nations Human Settlements Programme (UN-Habitat) and South Pole Carbon Asset Management Limited (South Pole) signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) to establish the Cities Investment Advisory Platform to enhance and mobilize greater levels of climate finance in cities.

UN-Habitat and South Pole aim to close the financing gap in resilient, sustainable infrastructure by developing this technical assistance facility to increase the number of projects that reach an investment-ready stage and catalyze institutional and commercial capital funding.

As part of the agreement, UN-Habitat and South Pole will jointly implement the Cities Investment Advisory Platform to bridge the gap between resilient, sustainable infrastructure

projects and investor requirements. The partnership will support upstream projects that align with the UN Sustainable Development Goals.

In the City Investment Advisory Platform, project promoters will receive advice and guidance on project structuring, financial and technical due diligence, deployment of technological assistance capital (grants, reimbursable financing, loans, and guarantees), getting projects to investment readiness, identification of blended finance scenarios and investment pathways (domestic and international exposures), and Sustainable Development Goals impact assessment using an SDG Project Assessment Tool.

[Click here to read more about the South Pole Collaboration with Cities Investment Facility.](#)



South Pole Team

## Cities Investment Facility Workshop

During the opening of the second session of the United Nations Habitat Assembly, held from June 5 to 9, 2023, in Nairobi, Kenya, the theme was “A sustainable urban future through Inclusive and effective multilateralism: achieving the Sustainable Development Goals in Times of global crises.”

The Cities Investment Facility Implementing Partners held a 2-day detailed workshop. It led to a valuable contribution to the feasibility fund and action plans by fostering public-private partnerships and expanding innovative financing mechanisms.



CIF and its implementing partners gathered together for a 2-day workshop to discuss and finalize the overarching details of the Facility. With a focus on unlocking private capital to enhance sustainable urban development, discussions revolved around establishing the feasibility fund and its 2023 action plan.

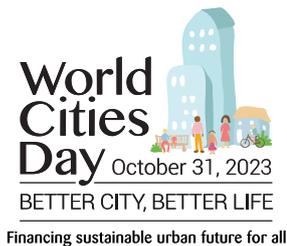
## UPCOMING EVENTS:



Urban October is a global initiative to raise awareness, promote participation, generate knowledge, and engage the international community in creating a better urban future. The month begins with World Habitat Day on the first Monday of the month and ends with World Cities Day on October 31. Throughout the month of October, various events, activities, and discussions take place worldwide to promote the significance of well-planned, inclusive, and resilient cities.



**World Habitat Day** will be held in Baku, Azerbaijan for the World Habitat Day on 2 October 2023.



It's a global observation of **World Cities Day** held on October 31, 2023, theme "Better City, Better Life," linked to financing a sustainable urban future for all topics. It will explore how we can unlock transformative investment in urban planning and achieve adequate fiscal decentralization. Many cities and local governments continue to be restrained in their capacity to borrow money and raise revenue for large projects.

**World Cities Day** aims to raise international awareness of urbanization trends, challenges, and visions for sustainable urban development, promote international cooperation, and contribute to global efforts to build equitable, prosperous, sustainable, inclusive cities that provide their communities with better living environments and quality of life.



# CALL TO ACTION: FEASIBILITY FUND

The Feasibility Fund is a Fund that provides technical assistance funding earmarked for expenses related to the initial technical, environmental & social, financial, and legal advisory work streams. Furthermore, the Fund provides financial assistance to support capacity building amongst local and national stakeholders to ensure alignment between private funders and government.

Our CIAP implementing partners (RCC, Gensler, Smart Cities Network) are operating on a non-profit basis to significantly de-risk and take projects to a mid-stage level of project preparation readiness (Concept and Initial Feasibility work streams). The remaining development work, as described earlier, is funded by CIF's

Cities Investment Vehicles to prepare the projects for commercial funding. Given that our CIV's operate on a for-profit basis, they do not receive any direct funding from the Feasibility Fund.

The CIAP work is critical given the inherent high-risk nature of early development. It isn't often known, until much of the conceptual and feasibility work has been completed, whether a project is financially and socially viable for all stakeholders. Capacity building is critical to ensure governments understand what is required of them and what they must facilitate (permits/land control/guarantees) to ensure that project preparation is timely and that the projects, once fully developed, are considered investible for commercial capital providers.

## How It Is Seeded

The allocation of funds from partners may be non-earmarked or earmarked as follows:

Donors shall be encouraged to make non-earmarked multi-year contributions to the Feasibility Fund. This maximises the flexibility for the use of funds based on principles of the Fund and likelihood of success.

- Donors that prefer to make earmarked contributions may earmark their contributions to specific SDG outcomes, geographies, and infrastructure type.

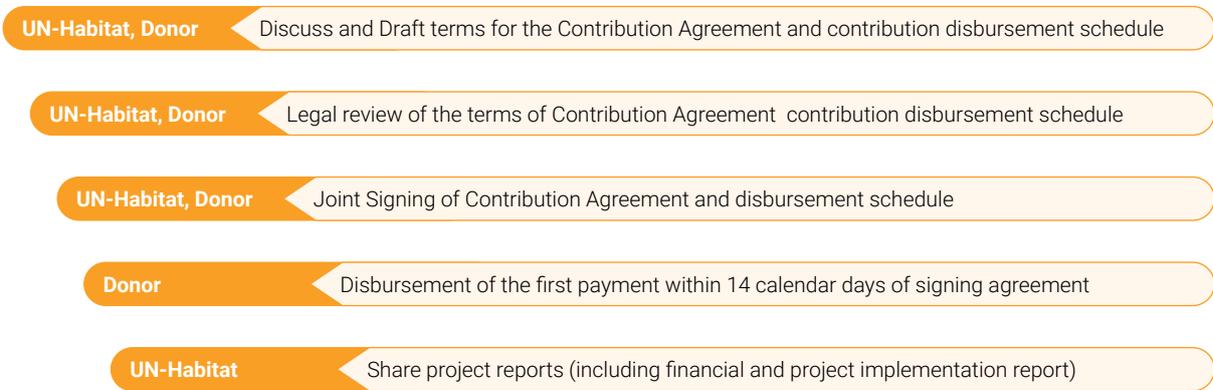
- Funds can also be channelled directly from the source to implementing partners to undertake feasibility advisory work – where so, separate contribution to cover any Secretariat / Service Provider costs is encouraged

UN-Habitat's preference is for Donors to invest non-earmarked funding but we understand certain Donors may have a thematic geographic or asset class in mind. To this end we welcome direct earmarked contributions for individual project preparation initiatives.

## Here's how you can contribute:

### Option 1: Seed Grant contribution to UN-Habitat

You can make a direct contribution to the UN-Habitat CIF through a seed grant.



**Contents of Contribution Agreement:** The standard Contribution Agreement outlines the contribution amount, purpose, payment arrangements, requirements, cost recovery, use of UN-Habitat's name or emblem which provides for its use fully when authorized, dispute resolution, consultation, termination, and entry into force. An annex will be attached, tabulating the Project, the schedule and budget of the implemented project.

**Cost Recovery:** The Contribution Agreement should make provision for Programme Support Costs in line with UN rules and regulations. It outlines two distinct cost categories: Indirect Costs (Programme Support Cost rate of 13%) and Direct Costs (implementation of support services linked to the specified project). Special Circumstances: In special cases, where the indirect cost percentage needs to be lower than 13%, approval must be sought from Office of the Executive Director (OED) or Management Advisory and Compliance Services (MAC).

**Standard Operating Procedure – Private Sector Partner Due Diligence**

Steps	Output
<p>1 Private Sector Partnership opportunity/offer comes to UN-Habitat → Basic research on the Private Sector entity</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Completed basic research form</li> </ul>
<p>2 Detailed research on the Private Sector entity</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Completed detailed research form</li> </ul>
<p>3 Enter conversations with the Private Sector entity to explore types of agreement and optimise partnership opportunities</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Meeting minutes</li> <li>• Proposed type of agreement</li> </ul>
<p>4 Drafting Partnership proposal documents Circulating Partnership proposal document to Legal Office and all relevant units/divisions for risk evaluation and mitigation</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Draft Partnership proposal document:                             <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>– Memorandum of Understanding</li> <li>– Contribution Agreement</li> <li>– Private Sector Partnership Agreement</li> <li>– Pro-bono Agreement</li> <li>– Communication Agreement</li> </ul> </li> </ul>
<p>5 Final decision-making and signing the agreements</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Signed agreement</li> </ul>

**Option 2: World Urban Campaign (WUC)**

You can contribute by becoming a sponsor for a CIF project through the World Urban Campaign (WUC) sponsorship program. By supporting a project, you directly contribute to its success and the overall mission of the Feasibility Fund.



**WORLD URBAN CAMPAIGN**  
BY UN-HABITAT

**IMPROVING 1000 CITIES  
1 BILLION LIVES BY 2030**



DECADE OF ACTION  
UN-HABITAT

The following packages can be tailored to the sponsor's needs and priorities:

	 <b>Maximum Impact</b>	 <b>Double Impact</b>	 <b>High Impact</b>	 <b>Impact</b>															
<p><b>WORLD SPONSORING</b> ENTRY FEES FOR BUSINESS AND PHILANTROPIES</p> <p><b>Brand Partner Visibility</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Name and logo promotion</li> <li>• Speaking opportunities</li> <li>• Booths in dedicated expos</li> </ul> <p><b>Five Impact Streams</b></p> <p><b>Cities Investment Facility(CIF) Impact Project</b></p> <table style="width: 100%; border-collapse: collapse;"> <tr> <td></td> <td style="text-align: center;">4 CITIES</td> <td style="text-align: center;">1 CITY</td> </tr> <tr> <td>• CIF Project Assessment Report</td> <td style="text-align: center;">4</td> <td style="text-align: center;">1</td> </tr> <tr> <td>• CIF Project Feasibility Analysis Report</td> <td style="text-align: center;">4</td> <td style="text-align: center;">1</td> </tr> <tr> <td>• CIF Project Investability Report</td> <td style="text-align: center;">4</td> <td style="text-align: center;">1</td> </tr> <tr> <td>• CIF Project Impact Report</td> <td style="text-align: center;">4</td> <td style="text-align: center;">1</td> </tr> </table>		4 CITIES	1 CITY	• CIF Project Assessment Report	4	1	• CIF Project Feasibility Analysis Report	4	1	• CIF Project Investability Report	4	1	• CIF Project Impact Report	4	1	<p><b>USD 800,000</b></p> <p>★★★★</p>	<p><b>USD 200,000</b></p> <p>★★★</p>	<p><b>USD 100,000</b></p> <p>★★</p>	<p><b>USD 50,000</b></p> <p>★</p>
	4 CITIES	1 CITY																	
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• CIF Project Feasibility Analysis Report	4	1																	
• CIF Project Investability Report	4	1																	
• CIF Project Impact Report	4	1																	

**CIF Project Assessment Report**

Coordination of the implementation of the UN-Habitat SDG Project Assessment Tool with the Urban Lab.

**Feasibility analysis report**

Conduct a project feasibility analysis and bankability advisory, assessing the financial viability of the project, identifying potential sources of funding, and developing a detailed financial plan for the project, including revenue streams, costs, and projected return on investment.

**Investability Report**

Create a comprehensive and visually appealing package of information about the project, including project overview, design renderings, project benefits, and potential impacts, to be shared with potential investors, financiers, and other stakeholders at the Twelfth Session of the World Urban Forum in January 2024; the project will be eligible for Diamond Certification on SDGs with the completion of this preparation phase.

**CIF Project Impact Report**

The ultimate objective of preparing the projects is to generate impact in cities and communities. After financial close, UN-Habitat will collect, analyse and report on impact metrics related to the supported projects. This catalogue details information regarding CIF projects that will be supported by the contribution from:

- Maximum Impact \$ 800,000 (4 cities projects)
- Double Impact \$ 200,000 (2 cities projects)

To donate or inquire about how you can get involved, please contact us at [un-habitat@cip.org](mailto:un-habitat@cip.org). Let us work together to shape the cities of tomorrow, leaving no one behind.

# INTRODUCTION TO NEW CIF COLLEAGUES IN THE FACILITY

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## **Abel Kimutai**

**Social Media and Communications Intern**

Abel Kimutai is a Communications and Public Relations major from Moi University, Kenya. He has previously worked at Watu Africa as a brand and digital media intern and at the Kenya National Police Sacco as a communications intern.

Abel recognises that the current era relies on a digital landscape as a crucial element in effecting change and aspires to use his current appointment as a social media and communications intern to craft engaging narratives and campaigns that ignite conversations around urban investment and sustainable development.



## **Donah Kigunda**

**Sustainable Finance, Intern**

Donah has experience in finance-related industries. She obtained a Bachelor of Commerce with a Finance specialization from the Multimedia University of Kenya. With over one and a half years of professional experience, she previously worked as a Relationship Officer at Guaranty Trust Bank Kenya, a financial advisor at Prudential Life Assurance, and a financial attachment at Kenyatta National Hospital.

In her current role at CIF, Donah's main objective is to contribute to project development and establish the Feasibility Fund. She is particularly attracted to CIF's mission of enhancing sustainable development in cities and has a keen interest in advancing the affordable housing initiative. Leveraging her skills and knowledge in finance, Donah aims to identify and implement CIF projects that align with its mandate.

Donah is excited about applying her finance background to benefit CIF, promote social good, and positively impact vulnerable communities' lives.



## **Mark Gallagher**

**Sustainable Finance Officer**

Mark Gallagher is the Sustainable Finance Officer of the Cities Investment Facility, based within the Office of the Executive Director, and is primarily responsible for project selection and strategic partnerships.

Mark has 8+ years of project, operations & stakeholder management experience across sustainable finance, environment & climate change, and inclusive economic development themes in the UK and internationally. In previous roles, including positions at Chief Operating Officer and Trustee level, Mark has developed significant skills across strategy, fundraising & resource mobilization, revenue model innovation, capacity-building, data management & visualization, and monitoring & reporting, with a demonstrated track record of driving, monitoring and communicating successes.



## Mumba Mwansa

### Social Media and Communications Intern

Mumba Mwansa is a Bachelor's degree holder of Mass Communication from the University of Zambia and is currently pursuing her Master's in the same field at the University of Zambia. She has attained various certificates in her field of study, including diplomacy, protocol, international relations, and social media management.

She has vast experience in media and communications, as proven in her role as a Senior sub-Editor for one of Zambia's leading daily newspapers, the Zambia Daily Mail. She also has extensive experience in digital content creation, as she currently runs a blog where she is an advocate for issues including women's empowerment, sexual reproductive health rights, tourism promotion, and career growth.

Currently, Mumba is a social media and communications intern assisting UN-Habitat's Cities Investment Facilities in marketing, communication, and outreach.



## Shuhua Wu

### Sustainable Finance, Intern

Shuhua WU is passionate about achieving sustainability through business. She aims to contribute to the success of sustainable urban development projects at CIF with her analytical, creative thinking, and communication skills.

Shuhua is pursuing her Master's in International Strategy & Influence at SKEMA Business School, France. Before this appointment, Shuhua participated in two consulting projects in sustainability and the green economy. In one of the two projects, she advised an EU-level circular economy NGO on strategies for engaging circular economy social enterprises in the climate change policy field; in the other project, she informed one of the largest construction groups in Europe on the importance of sustainability transformation.

These experiences have defined Ms. Shuhua as a proactive person who seeks to help facilitate the sustainability transformation of all kinds of organizations. Her appointment as a Sustainable Finance Intern at the UN-Habitat CIF program will support the Cities Investment Facility (CIF) programs, project development, and project preparation.



## Wandia Karani

### Communications and Design Officer

Wandia Karani is the Communication and Design Officer of the Cities Investment Facility, based within the Office of the Executive Director.

She has 9+ years of stakeholder engagement, event management, digital marketing, branding and positioning, communication strategy, and writing and editing.

She has also worked with UNCDF, UNEP, and government agencies such as the Kenya Tourism Board and the Kenya Wildlife Service in collaboration with IGAD and WTO, achieving remarkable results in social media marketing campaigns, branding and positioning products and services, event management, and stakeholder engagement.

# CONTRIBUTORS

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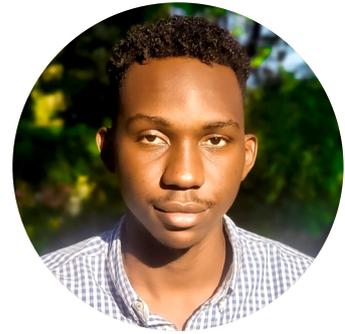
**Alice Odera**

Coordinator - Joint Lakefront Planning and Development Initiative, Pioneer Director of Communications Head of Sustainability - Kisumu Lakefront Development Corporation



**Donah Kigunda**

Sustainable Finance Intern-Cities Investment Facility



**Henry Sadiki**

Communications Intern-Cities Investment Facility



**Jeremiah Ougo**

Urban Planner, Regional Office for Africa, UN-Habitat



**Oliver Schaper**

Principal and Global Cities and Urban Design Resilience Leader, Gensler



**Wandia Karani**

Communications and Design Officer-Cities Investment Facility, UN-Habitat



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