

**UN  HABITAT**  
FOR A BETTER URBAN FUTURE

*A better quality of life for  
all in an urbanizing world*

# UN-Habitat in the Arab Region

## Overview

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Africa Group  
Regional Consultative Meeting

Presentation by: Rania Hedeya  
Date: November 2023

**UN**  **HABITAT**  
FOR A BETTER URBAN FUTURE



Serving **18** countries  
in the Arab Region

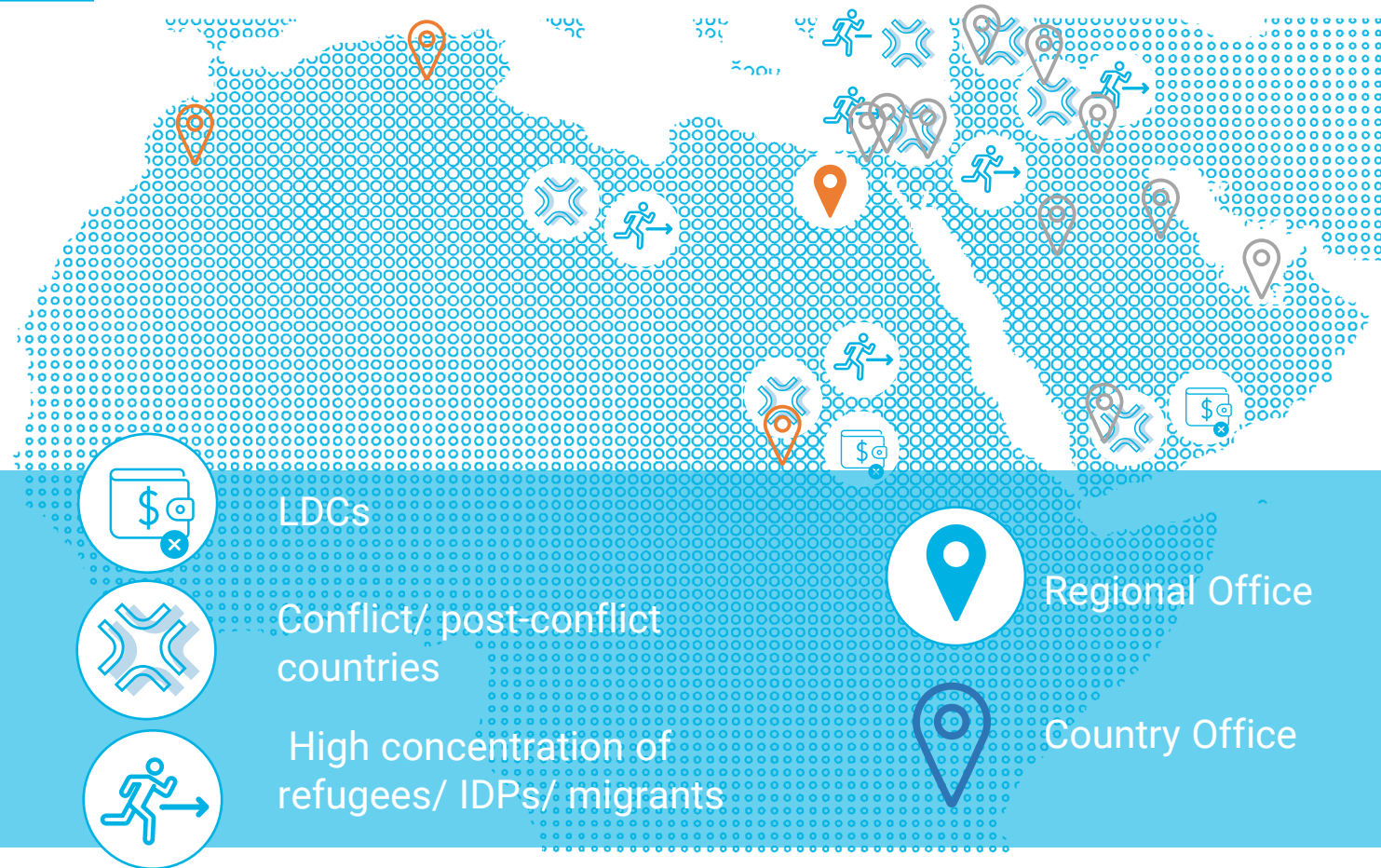


16 countries with  
current UN-Habitat  
activity



14 countries with  
country offices

# Regional Office Presence



# Regional Thematic Trends



**456 million** inhabitants expected to reach **646 million** by 2050



**36% IDPs** and **32.8 million** migrants and refugees originated from the region in 2020, **1/3 women**



**1.4 %** of the world's renewable fresh water  
**47 million people** without access to **drinking water**



Only **2%**  
**green public spaces**



**Nearly 60%** urban population, expected to reach **75% by 2050**



**55.7 million** people who need **Humanitarian Assistance**

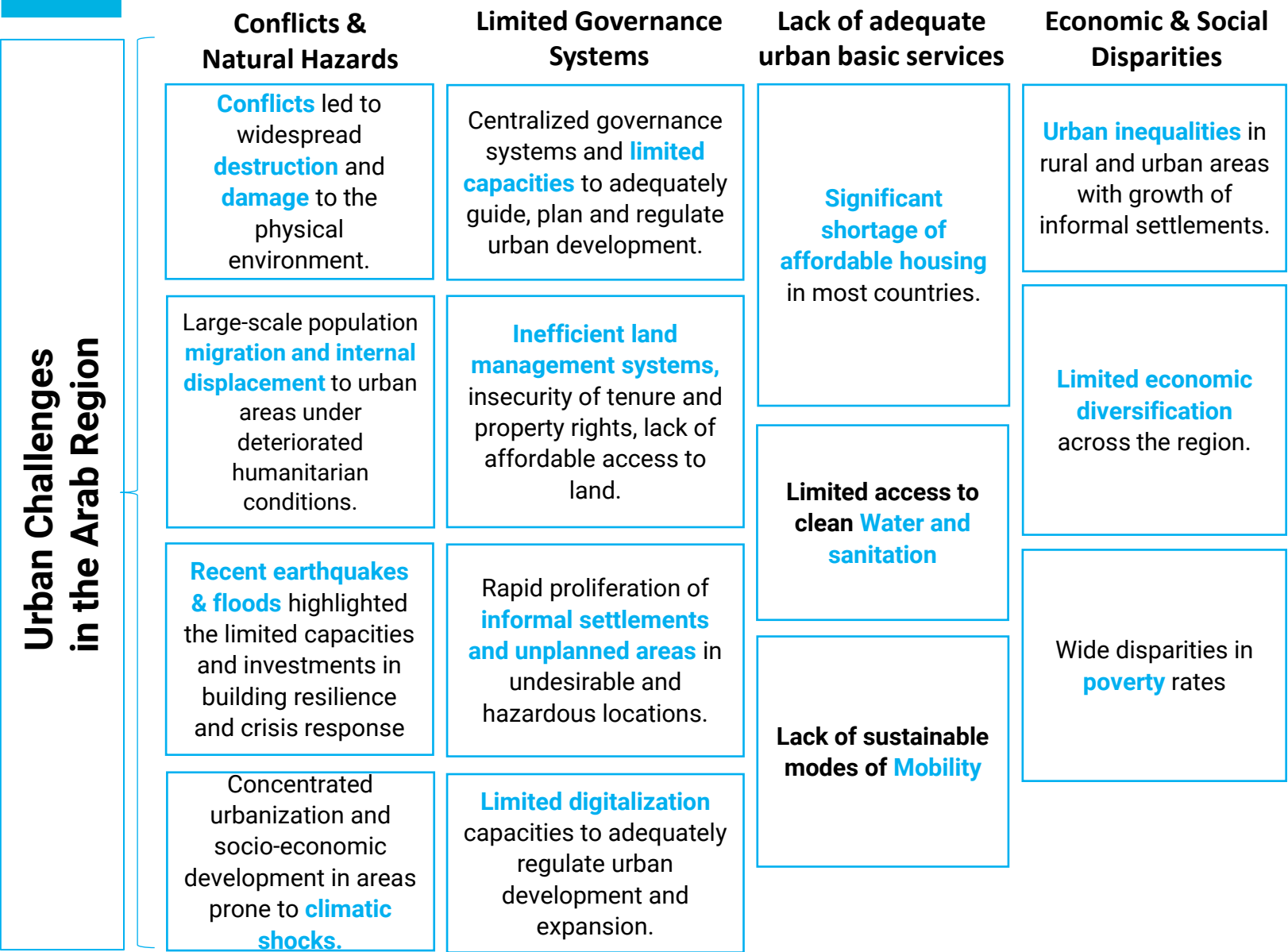


Climate change induced **Sea Level Rise** will impact over **43** port cities









**5 Arab Countries** among top 10 **polluted countries** worldwide

# Urban Challenges



# UN-HABITAT REGIONAL PRIORITIES FOR 2023 - 2024

URBAN DATA AND CAPACITY BUILDING

	PRIORITIES	ACTION AREAS	COUNTRIES
	 <p><b>1. URBAN RECOVERY</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Area-based recovery planning</li> <li>Durable solutions for IDPs</li> <li>Urban Recovery Framework</li> <li>Early recovery projects</li> <li>Rehabilitation of housing and infrastructure</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Lebanon</li> <li>Iraq</li> <li>Palestine</li> <li><b>Sudan</b></li> <li>Syria</li> <li>Yemen</li> </ul>
	 <p><b>2. URBAN PLANNING</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Human-centered urban regeneration &amp; upgrading</li> <li>Spatial planning</li> <li>Urban Governance</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><b>Egypt</b></li> <li>Jordan</li> <li>KSA</li> <li>Kuwait</li> <li><b>Morocco</b></li> <li>Palestine</li> <li>Oman</li> </ul>
	 <p><b>3. ENVIRONMENT &amp; CLIMATE CHANGE</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Climate mitigation</li> <li>Climate adaptation</li> <li>Green and inclusive public spaces</li> <li>Nature-based solutions</li> <li>Sustainable urban food systems</li> <li>Water security</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Jordan</li> <li>Lebanon</li> <li>Kuwait</li> <li>Iraq</li> <li><b>Morocco</b></li> <li><b>Tunisia</b></li> <li>Syria</li> <li><b>Egypt</b></li> <li><b>Sudan</b></li> <li>Bahrain</li> </ul>
	 <p><b>4. HOUSING, LAND &amp; PROPERTY RIGHTS</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Adequate housing</li> <li>Housing rehabilitation</li> <li>Tenure security</li> <li>Women HLP rights</li> <li>Informal settlements upgrading</li> <li>Housing strategies</li> <li>Land management systems</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Palestine</li> <li>Syria</li> <li>Lebanon</li> <li><b>Morocco</b></li> <li><b>Tunisia</b></li> <li>Iraq</li> <li><b>Egypt</b></li> <li>Yemen</li> <li>KSA</li> </ul>
	 <p><b>5. SDGS LOCALIZATION</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Voluntary Local Reviews (VLRs)</li> <li>SDG Cities</li> <li>Cities investment facility</li> <li>Healthy Cities</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Jordan</li> <li><b>Tunisia</b></li> <li>Palestine</li> <li>Lebanon</li> <li><b>Egypt</b></li> </ul>
	 <p><b>6. URBAN BASIC SERVICES</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Solid waste management</li> <li>Water and Sanitation services</li> <li>Sustainable urban mobility</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Jordan</li> <li>Lebanon</li> <li>Syria</li> <li><b>Tunisia</b></li> </ul>

# STRATEGIC UPDATES

## Strengthening and Expanding UN-Habitat's Presence and Support to Member States in the Arab Region

### LIBYA

UN-Habitat is looking forward to finalizing the Host Country Agreement in Libya following the recent mission in August 2023.

### PALESTINE

UN-Habitat and the Government of Palestine, represented by the Ministry of Local Government (MoLG), signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) for the period 2023-2026.

### KINGDOM OF SAUDI ARABIA

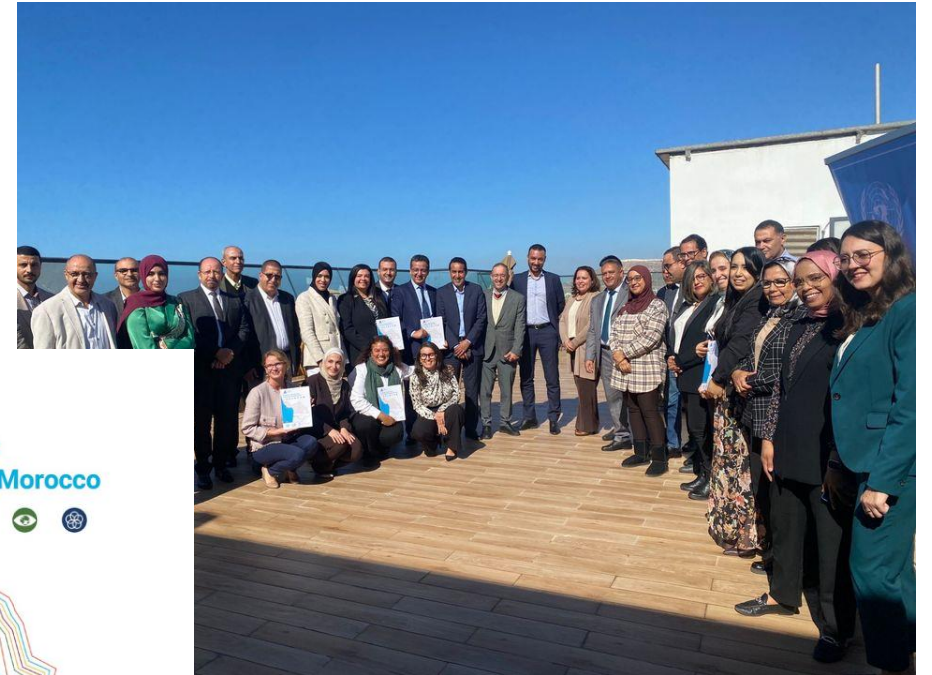
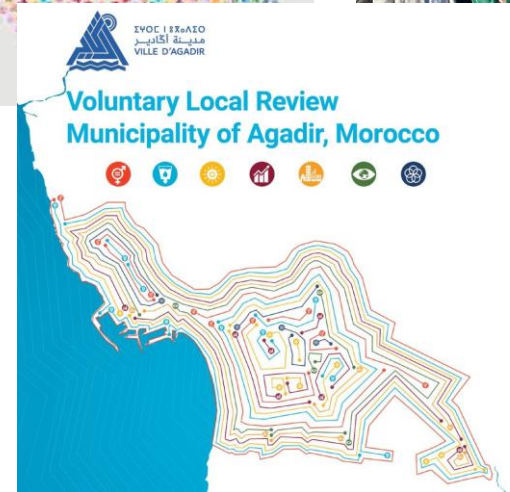
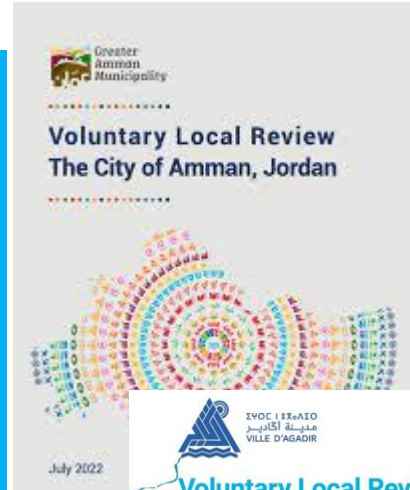
UN-Habitat and the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia signed the Host Country Agreement to fortify the ongoing collaboration on urban development



# STRATEGIC UPDATES

## Localizing SDGs in Arab Cities; Voluntary Local Reviews launched in Agadir and Amman

- ROAS is providing tools and technical guidance to support national and local governments implement SDGs and report on their progress.
- ROAS is establishing the Local2030 Cairo Hub which will offer capacity building and support for SDG localization in the region.
- The (VLRs) provide an assessment of the state of implementation of the SDGs at the local level and a solid basis to advance their implementation.
- Following the launch of Amman, Jordan VLR in 2022, the VLR for **Agadir, Morocco** was launched in November 2023.
- Three more cities (**Hay Ennour, Tunisia**; Irbid, Jordan; and Ramallah, Palestine) are currently finalizing their VLRs with support from UN-Habitat.

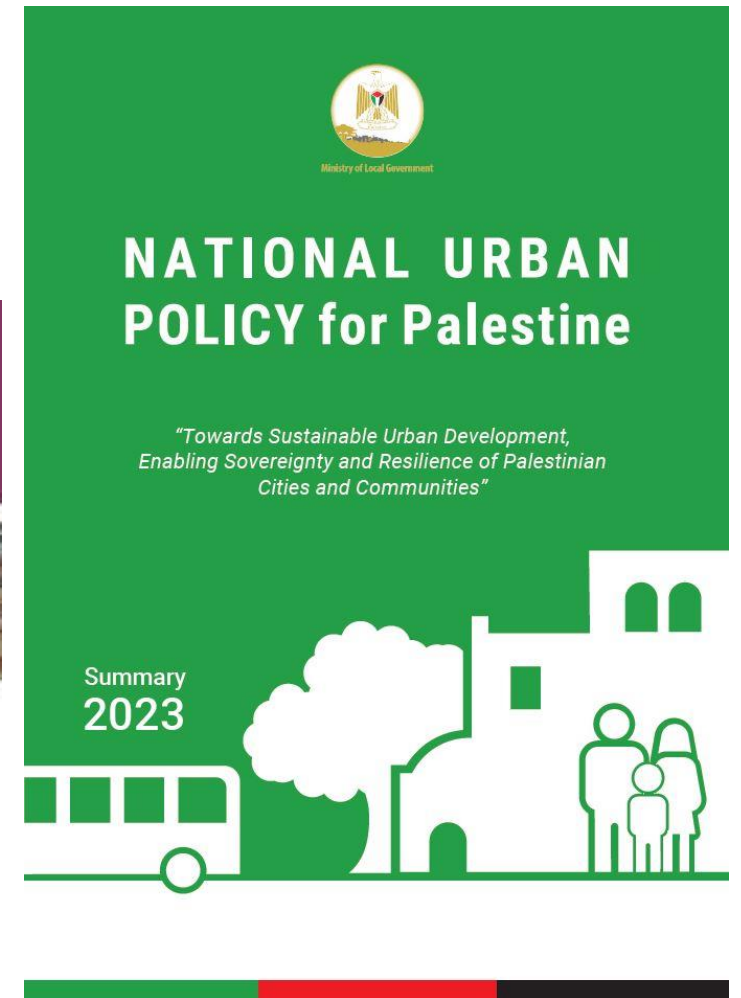
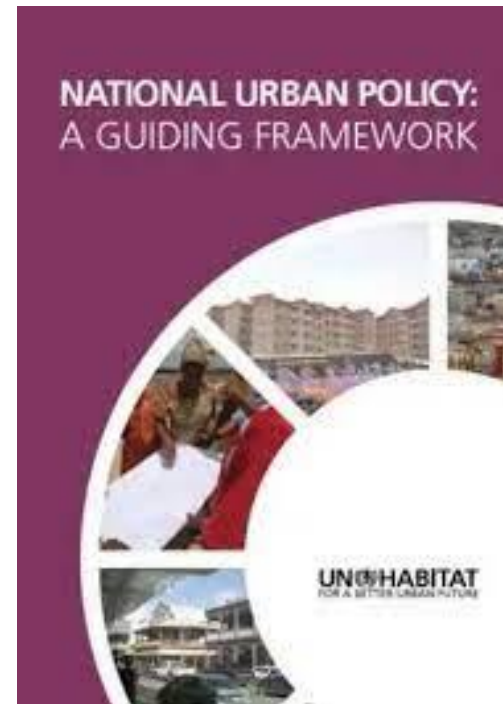




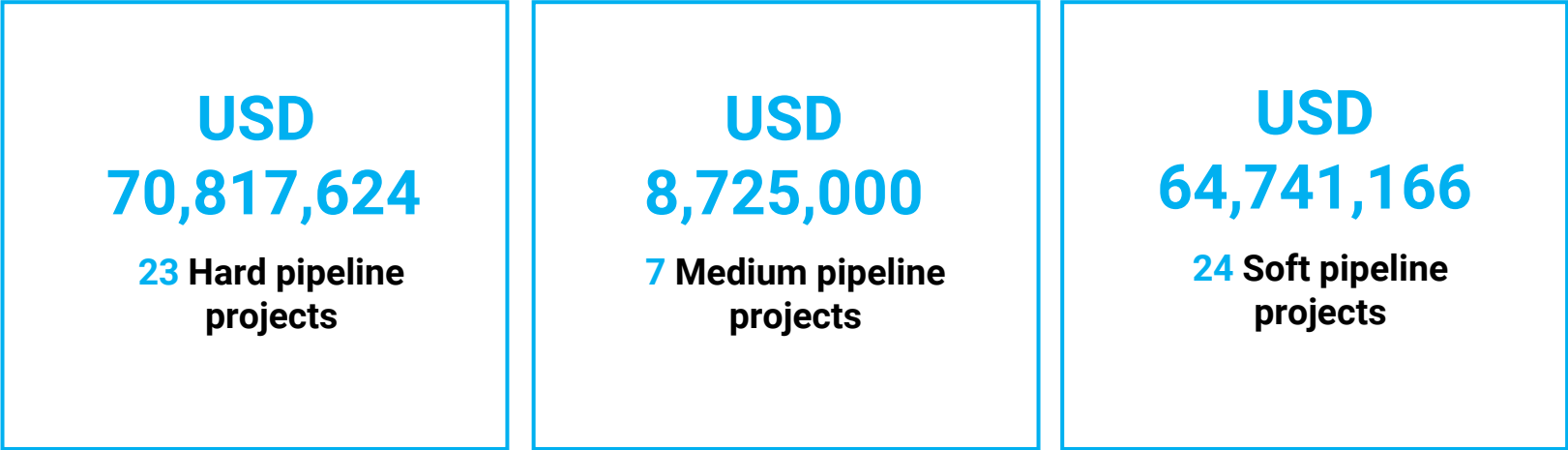
# STRATEGIC UPDATES

## Support to National Urban Policies

- UN-Habitat supported the development of national urban policies as an overarching coordinating framework to deal with the most pressing issues related to rapid urban development in several countries in the Arab region including Egypt, Lebanon, Jordan, Sudan and Palestine.
- The National Urban Policy for Egypt and Palestine were recently endorsed by the respective Cabinets, providing a reference for the implementation of public interventions in urban areas.
- Iraq has recently kickstarted the process of developing its NUP with support from UN-Habitat.



# 2023 PIPELINE PROJECTS AND ACQUISITIONS



**USD**  
**31 MILLION**

Total value of  
**23** newly signed  
projects in 2023

# STAFFING ISSUES

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- The escalating conflicts in Sudan led to the relocation of our staff members
- **ROAS Staffing requirements for the upcoming period:**
  - SHSO – RO P5 total approximately USD250,000
  - HSO – RO P4 total approximately USD220,000
  - PMO – RO P3 total approximately USD200,000

# Thank you

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[www.unhabitat.org](http://www.unhabitat.org)



IMPLEMENTING  
THE NEW  
URBAN AGENDA

