UN-HABITAT

Briefing on the implementation of resolutions adopted by the United Nations Habitat Assembly

Executive Board of UN-Habitat
48th meeting of the Ad hoc working group on programmatic, budgetary and administrative matters
13 March 2024 – 2:30 pm to 4.30pm EAT

- Under implementation

- **Extended to 2025 by UN-Habitat Assembly Decision 2/1 (2023)**

- **SP Mid-term review** imminently being finalized by OIOS

- A call for **expressions of interest to host the Safer Cities Programme** as a global centre of excellence is under discussion (OP7)

- Ongoing **collaboration with partners advancing an urban safety monitoring tool**; **e-learning modules** on safer cities on UN-Habitat Learn; scaling up of the **cities peer review and learning process** (OP3/ OP7)

- Broader UN collaboration being piloted through **joint UN programming at the country level (e.g. South Africa)** (OP5)

- Joint pilot activities with **UNODC** (evidence-based community safety policies); the **Human Security Unit** (human security participatory appraisals and plans); **UNOCT** (the United Nations Global Counter-Terrorism Coordination Compact); and the **Office for Disarmament Affairs** (module on gun-free zones) (OP5)

- Egypt is organizing a **regional EGM in Cairo in April 2024** to review safer cities practices in Africa (OP4)

- **NUA Illustrated in 5 UN languages** and crash course to expand access to NUA (incl. Guidance digital capacity-building, UN-Habitat Learn – 30 courses /10,000+ users)

- Expanded **strategic capacity-building partnerships** in 2023 (IHS, the Commonwealth Sustainable Cities Initiative, ITC, IUTC, Arcadis), to be continued in 2024

- Continuous **piloting and rollout of innovative capacity-building practices**

- Development of a comprehensive framework to guide **partnerships with academia** / centers of knowledge

- **Focus on innovative methods to qualify and quantify capacity gaps** at the individual and institutional levels of local and national governments to achieve the NUA and Agenda 2030.

- Increased work with **country offices and regional offices** to improve their scores on gender and integrate social inclusion issues into their projects presented to the PRC (OP1)

- HRSI unit introduced the **Gender Champion Award** and the winning projects from Palestine and Mozambique were showcased in celebration of this year's International Women's Day (OP1)

- First draft of the **Human Rights and Social Inclusion Handbook** complete (OP2, OP5)

- **UNSWAP reporting on 3 performance indicators improved** and an improvement action plan drawn up to improve scores for 2024

- **Advisory Group on Gender Issues** to be reconstituted by the next quarter of 2024 in view of joint planning for WUF 12 events (OP4)

- More **gender focused parameters** to be included in the revision of the **ESSS** (OP 1, OP2)

HSP/HA.1/RES.5 (2019) - Enhancing urban-rural linkages for sustainable urbanization and human settlements

- Three sessions of the **international forum** on urban-rural linkages convened in collaboration with Songyang County, China – last one with 180 participants from 18 international organisations and 17 countries (OP3, OP4)

- **Newsletters and case study compendiums** to advance knowledge on urban-rural linkages (OP3)

- **Research and Policy reviews** conducted in five African countries (Cameroon, Kenya, Nigeria, Senegal, and Zimbabwe), leading to the establishment of a Center for Urban-Rural Linkages in Africa at the University of Nairobi (OP1)

- **Twelve (12) African countries supported** in integrating urban-rural linkages into their national policies/strategies (OP1)

- Next steps focus on continuing **advocacy and knowledge-sharing activities** to further promote urban-rural linkages globally (OP1, OP3, OP4)

- Strengthen **partnerships** with governments, international agencies, and academic institutions to leverage resources and expertise in advancing urban-rural linkages initiatives (OP4)

- Continue more targeted **tools development** (OP1, OP4)

- Additional funding sources to be explored to sustain and expand implementation efforts

- **Global Experts Working Group** meeting monthly (virtual)

- **Two global in person meetings** of the Global Experts Working Group 2024 confirmed (Strasbourg; Baku)

- **Review of hosts regional consultations** ongoing

- **Global assessment of the state of smart city development** (World Smart Cities Outlook) ongoing

- **Stakeholder consultations** preparation ongoing (civil society, private sector, local and regional governments, academia, other UN agencies and UN-Habitat Advisory Groups)

DRAFTING

- **Zero draft:** April 2024

- **First draft:** June 2024

- **Second draft**: August 2024

- **Third draft**: October 2024

- **Final draft**: November 2024

- Provided **Technical support** upon demand to 10 Member States (OP 6)

- Development of **sub-regional strategy framework for SADC countries** initiated (OP 7)

- Preparation of **UN-Habitat led strategy** for slum transformation in the context of adequate housing (OP 7)

- Development of a **partnership strategy with the Organization of the African, Caribbean and Pacific States** on behalf of its 79 member states. (OP 7)

- Prepared **outline for a technical guideline for a multiple partnership approach** to slum transformation in response to the 10 key actions (OP 8)

- Next steps include review of **data needs and methods** for slum related issues and identify criteria for policy best practices to be integrated with Adequate Housing Platform (OP 3(c) and 3(d))

- **Global Publication** on Slum Transformation and develop of a **Transformative Action Matrix** (OP 7) being finalised

- UNGA approved on 8th December 2023 the resolution **A/78/L.11** and proclaimed 20 September as World Cleanup Day, to be observed annually. (OP1 and OP5)

- The **GA resolution invites UN-Habitat to facilitate the observance of World Cleanup Day** and stressed that the costs of all the activities should be met through voluntary contributions. (OP6)

- **Outreach to Member States ongoing to mobilize resources** required for hosting and facilitation of the World Cleanup Day (OP1)

- Preparing to launch a **call for expression of interest to host the World Cleanup Day 2024** and working with partners to support the outreach and mobilise communities to do clean-ups on the day (OP6).

- **Invitations** to be sent to all Member States, organizations in the UN system and other international organizations to observe the World Cleanup Day (OP2)

- Reflect the **World Cleanup Day on the corporate website**, providing an overview, registering events, providing resources for outreach and communications to promote and advocate to external partners, donors, and stakeholders. (OP2)

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- **Progress on toolkit on urban development for biodiverse and resilient cities** (OP2, OP7)
  - Costa Rica is supporting the project on cities and nature in San José Metropolitan Area
  - Piloting a hotspot spotlight raster that proactively projects urban expansion, predicts land-use conflict zones, preserves peri-urban habitat, and prevents replication of mistakes
  - Results to be reported at WUF12 and 2nd Session of the Executive Board

- **Regional Expert Group Meeting in LAC** (OP2)
  - Sharing practices and promoting the mainstreaming of biodiversity and ecosystem services in territorial planning and management
  - Aligning multilevel urban policies across jurisdictionally fragmented biodiversity hotspots

- UN-Habitat co-chaired the **first Local Climate Action Summit** at COP28 and conducted the **2nd Ministerial Meeting for Urbanization and Climate Change** with 60 urban line ministers, 200 local leaders, and 1000 participants present. Joint Outcome Statement can be found [here](). (OP2)

- Submission of options and recommendation for **SURGe operationalization** to EB (OP3). Current negotiation with Bloomberg on linking SURGe and CHAMP with a focus on urban NDC.

- Successful resource mobilization for Ghana & Cote d'Ivoire, Sri Lanka, Mongolia, and Lao PDR under **RISE UP Flagship Programme**. Two new HQ-based projects help to roll-out a standardized approach for scaling up RISE UP portfolio further. (OP4)

- Promotion of **multilevel climate action** at the UNEA6 Cities and Region Summit. (OP8)

- Establishment of a GCF Accreditation Task Force targeting Stage 1 submission for June 24. Accreditation window: USD 50million. (OP7)

- UN-Habitat **representative selected to engage in the scoping exercise of the IPCC Special Report** on Cities and Climate Change (OP1)

- **Ideation with COP29 Presidency for next iteration of the Ministerial Meeting** with synergies to WUF12 and establishment of Cities Day at COP29 (OP2)

- Merging of the SDG Cities Flagship within the SDG Localization & Local Governments Team

- Launching the **Action-Oriented VLR Methodology** – piloted in 13 countries (OP2a)

- Building a corporate **capacity building offer on SDG Localization,** in line with the Local2030 Coalition (with UNDESA and UCLG) – piloted in 5 countries (OP2b, OP2c, OP2f)

- Active support to localization efforts in 18 countries and preparation for **scaling up towards national SDG Localization programmes** (OP2d, OP2e)

- 80 new cities have applied the **Global Urban Monitoring Framework** and 42 have reached out for support to collect data and report on progress for SDGs and NUA (OP4a)

- **Local 2030 Coalition**: Endorsement of SDG Localization Marker within Joint SDG Fund. Promotion of Integrated Policy and Capacity Building. Upcoming launch of Local2030 Knowledge and Scientific Network (OP2f, OP9)

- **Planned technical and political engagement** in RFSD, HLPF, Summit of the Future and WUF12 (OP2b, OP2d)

- **Priorities**: secure unearmarked or soft-earmarked funding for the global team; consolidate collaborations across the agency; consolidate tools and methodologies following the piloting phase; scale up pilots to national programmes.

- Platform needs **assessment method** designed and implementation underway (OP1/ OP8)

- Preliminary scoping expert meeting on **housing indicators** held (OP1c)

- Preparatory **consultations through Ad Hoc Working Group PBA** to minimise burden on Member States

- **Draft agenda** for first session of Open-ended Intergovernmental Expert Working Group on Adequate Housing for All being presented to upcoming EB session for its approval (OP2)

- Options and decision points on **dates and duration** for first session presented to upcoming EB session for its approval (OP7)

- **Next steps:**

  - Issue **announcement of date and venue** of first session of Housing Working Group once confirmed by EB in May 2024

  - Complete preparation of **background documents** for first session of Housing Working Group according to available resources and in kind contributions

  - Complete the **Adequate Housing Platform** needs assessment and design digital portal

  - **Brief Member States** and stakeholders on Housing Working Group purpose and procedure

- **Our City Plans digital platform** being updated with infrastructure related knowledge and tools, starting with urban mobility. Integration of additional sectoral infrastructure tools will follow. Need for additional tools (such as for the regional scale planning) has been identified (OP1)

- **Training and capacity development activities** developed globally and regionally on Our City Plans general structure, and one on one response to national and local governments on technical assistance for integrated and infrastructure planning realised through existing projects (OP6)

- **Outreach and connection** with other initiatives in-house, such as the Cities Investment Facility and Capital Investment Planning initiated (OP1a, OP5)

- **Centers of Excellence, Urban Labs:** Concept for new integrated Urban Lab that can provide remote and hybrid technical backstopping and/or create decentralised Urban Labs (centres of excellence) while implementing integrated planning processes (OP6)

- **Outreach to Member States for self-assessment** of needs in the field of planning and infrastructure (OP1, OP2)

- **Resource mobilisation efforts to be accelerated** with Multilateral Development Banks, Bilateral Cooperation and national financial institutions.
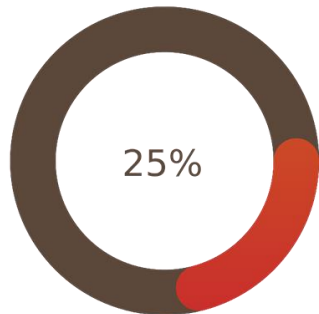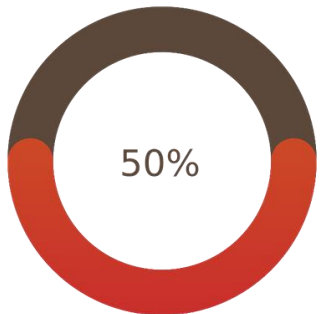
Progress on development of a comprehensive operational framework (OP1)

- Mapping of actors and country-level initiatives for each part of an urban crisis cycle (i.e. WMO under Earlywarning4ALL initiative, UNDRR for the Making Cities Resilient, IASC for the response, etc.)

- Establishment of partnerships for AI and technology innovation for data mining and data analytics on urban resilience systems for informed decisions.

- Development of urban recovery frameworks after crises (i.e. Syria, Ukraine)

Progress on re-activation of fund (OP2)

- Potential re-activation of the UN-Habitat emergency response fund (from crises to resilient development)

- Collaboration with UN-OCHA and other IASC members to expand standby partnerships for urban crises response

- Done ✓: Set up the urban action funding window in the financial system (OP3)

- Done ✓: Establish its terms of reference (OP4)

- 2024: Revise the contribution template to include project balances (OP5)

50%

25%

2024-25: Design and develop the web page on UNHA resolution tracking (OP1, OP2)

2024-25: Establish mechanism to collect and publish information (OP1, OP2)

Thank you