



UN-HABITAT

UNITED NATIONS HUMAN SETTLEMENTS PROGRAMME
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FOR A BETTER URBAN FUTURE

PRESS RELEASE

UN-Habitat opens call for hosting World Cleanup Day 2025 and World Cleanup Day 2026

Nairobi, 30 January 2025 – The United Nations Human Settlements Programme (UN-Habitat) is inviting cities, countries and other interested parties worldwide to express their interest in hosting the observances of World Cleanup Day 2025 or World Cleanup Day 2026. These events aim to mobilize action and drive solutions for the waste management challenges of today's world. The 2025 observance will focus on fashion and textile waste while the 2026 observance will centre on food waste.

The opportunity

Hosting the global observance(s) of World Cleanup Day offers unparalleled benefits:

- **Global leadership** – a chance for the host to demonstrate leadership and innovation in addressing waste management and related challenges.
- **Global visibility** – with participation from high-level representatives, including UN agencies, governments, and international organizations.
- **Global urban impact** – with the observances to showcase groundbreaking discussions and solutions that address today's most pressing urban challenges, including waste, pollution, resources recovery, and decent jobs, among others, offering valuable learning and collaboration opportunities for all.
- **Fostered international collaboration** – for addressing waste management challenges while aligning with the Sustainable Development Goals and the New Urban Agenda.

The process

Cities, countries and other parties interested in hosting World Cleanup Day 2025 or World Cleanup Day 2026 should submit an expression of interest by:

- **31 March 2025 for hosting World Cleanup Day 2025.** Announcement of the selected host will be made in April 2025.
- **31 July 2025 for hosting World Cleanup Day 2026.** Announcement of the selected host will be made in September 2025 during World Cleanup Day 2025.

Details and application guidelines for hosting World Cleanup Day 2025 and World Cleanup Day 2026 are available below:

- [Application guidelines 2025-2026](#)
- [About World Cleanup Day](#)

A transparent bidding process ensures that hosting of World Cleanup Day constitutes a collaborative partnership with UN-Habitat, the latter providing guidance and support every step of the way.

Why World Cleanup Day matters

World Cleanup Day is a global movement for collective action. This observance mobilizes individuals, organizations, the private sector and governments to tackle waste challenges, foster partnerships, raise awareness, drive behavioural change and inspire innovative solutions for a cleaner, more sustainable planet.

World Cleanup Day 2025 and 2026 will follow the inaugural World Cleanup Day 2024, which emphasized the importance of effective waste management in remote and fragile ecosystems such as the Arctic.

For more information on the hosting of World Cleanup Day, please contact: wastewisecities@un.org and unhabitat-events@un.org with email subject "World Cleanup Day 2025 and/or 2026".

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About World Cleanup Day

World Cleanup Day was established in 2023 by the United Nations General Assembly as an international day to be observed annually on 20 September to address the global waste management challenges through coordinated voluntary action and improved collaboration and awareness for reduced waste pollution.

About UN-Habitat

UN-Habitat is the United Nations entity working for sustainable urbanization. With programmes in over 90 countries, it supports policymakers and communities to create socially and environmentally sustainable cities and towns. UN-Habitat promotes transformative change in urban areas through knowledge, policy advice, technical assistance, and collaborative action. To know more, visit unhabitat.org or follow us on X @UNHABITAT.

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