

# CALL FOR NOMINATIONS GUIDE

February 2025



UN-HABITAT

**SCROLL of  
HONOUR  
AWARD**



UN-Habitat Executive Director Anacláudia Rossbach (centre) handing over the 2024 UN-Habitat Scroll of Honour awards in Querétaro, Mexico  
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**The UN-Habitat Scroll of Honor Award** was launched in 1989 and is one of the most prestigious human settlements awards in the world. It aims to acknowledge initiatives which have made outstanding contributions to adequate housing and sustainable urban development, with a focus on developing and improving the quality of urban life to leave no one behind echoing the Sustainable Development Goals 2030 with emphasis on Goal 11: Sustainable Cities and Communities.



Call for nominations for the UN-Habitat Scroll of Honor Award is open from **14 February 2025** until **30 April 2025**. The winners will receive their awards at the global observance of World Habitat Day on **Monday 6 October 2025**.

To nominate a candidate, please fill in and submit the **online form** in English.

**NOTE:** *It is not possible to nominate yourself, your own organization, programme, institute, or initiative. A ministry cannot nominate its own initiatives or programs.*

## ELIGIBILITY

Individuals and organizations working on sustainable urbanization and housing initiatives which have had a great impact on society, can be nominated for the UN-Habitat Scroll of Honor.

These include:

- Government and inter-governmental organizations or agencies, including bilateral aid agencies
- Local and Regional Governments or their associations
- Civil society organizations
- The private sector
- National Habitat Committees or focal points
- Research and academic institutions
- Public or private foundations
- Multilateral agencies (United Nations Agencies, World Bank, etc.)
- The media
- Individuals

Nominations must be made by a third party. For example, a government may nominate a university or an individual from an NGO. Similarly, an institute may nominate a city. A university head can nominate a government representative, a city, or an NGO. The nominee should not be employed by or affiliated with the nominated party.

Self-nominations, including those for one's own organization, programme, institute, or initiative, are not allowed.

## OUTLINING MAIN ACHIEVEMENTS

The achievements of the nominee need to be provided online through a "Short Description of the Main Achievements of the Initiative, Individual, Organization." This section should include information on:

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### 1) Background

Provide substantive information about the nominated organization or individual, including their mission, goals, history, and experience in sustainable urbanization and housing.

### 2) Description of the initiative

Provide a description of the situation or problem addressed, the objectives, target beneficiaries, investments (capacity, material, financial), activities undertaken, outputs, initiative duration, achievements, change and impact of the actions. Include photographs or other evidence of the outputs and results.

### 3) Main partners

List the partners involved, detailing their roles and levels of participation in the initiative's planning, design, implementation, and funding.

### 4) Impact

Provide the estimated number and types of beneficiaries (e.g., women, children, youth, people living in poverty, displaced persons etc.) Describe the initiative's impact on their living conditions, including social, economic, environmental, health, education, employment, tenure security, and crime or other related aspects. Support the description with both quantitative and qualitative data.

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### 5) Transferability and upscaling

Indicate whether this is a replicable best practice and demonstrate its potential for replication at local, national, regional, and global levels. Where applicable, provide an explanation of the replication process.

### 6) Innovation of the initiative

Describe the key innovative aspects of the initiative. What is new, different and creative in design, implementation or impact?

### 7) Recognition of the initiative

Describe how the initiative has been recognized and provide a list of references, articles, publications, and media reports, starting with the most recent. Include URLs for each source where available.

### 8) Relation to SDG 11

Describe how the initiative aligns with SDG 11, highlighting its relevance to target indicators such as housing, informal settlements, transport, and public spaces. Specify connections to any of the specific targets within SDG 11.

### 9) Relation to the 2025 World Habitat theme

Describe how the initiative aligns with the World Habitat Day theme which is on urban crisis response and highlight existing tools that play a critical role in urban response, recovery and reconstruction in crisis contexts.

### 10) Relation to implementation of the 2030 Agenda

Describe any efforts or activities that align with or contribute to achieving sustainable development goals.

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## THE SELECTION PROCESS

After the **closing date of 30 April 2025**, UN-Habitat will conduct an initial assessment of the nominations and submissions to ensure they meet the guidelines. Qualifying submissions will be reviewed by the Selection Committee, which includes UN-Habitat experts and senior management.

The Selection Committee will select and recommend up to five winning initiatives to the UN-Habitat Executive Director for selection.

The UN-Habitat Executive Director, based on the Selection Committee's recommendations, will make the final selection of the UN-Habitat Scroll of Honour winners.

Nominees will be notified of the outcome from July 2025 onwards. Winners will receive their awards during the global celebration of World Habitat Day on 6 October 2025.

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## AREAS OF ACHIEVEMENT

The Selection Committee will consider best practices, initiatives, and achievements related to Sustainable Development Goal 11, which includes 10 targets and 15 indicators, when selecting the award winners. Special attention will also be given to achievements aligned with the World Habitat Day theme which is on urban crisis response.

The theme will focus on addressing multiple crises affecting urban areas, including climate change and conflicts that are contributing to displacement, inequality and other challenges. It will also highlight how existing tools and approaches for improved housing, land and basic services enable effective **urban crisis response**.

Through the theme, UN-Habitat aims to advocate for local actions to accelerate implementation of the Sustainable Development Goals and the New Urban Agenda.

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## TIMEFRAME

✓ Call for nominations	<b>14 February 2025</b>
✓ Deadline for nominations	<b>30 April 2025</b>
✓ Winners selected and notified	<b>July 2025</b>
✓ UN-Habitat Scroll of Honour Awards presented at the Global Observance of World Habitat Day	<b>6 October 2025</b>

## TERMS AND CONDITIONS

The prize will be awarded to the individual or organization named in the submission form, though an officially appointed representative may receive it on their behalf.

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All entries will be available for international exhibitions, demonstration, publication, and media coverage, without the need for further permission from UN-Habitat.

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By submitting an entry for the Scroll of Honour Award, I consent to my personal data being stored and processed for the purpose of organizing and managing the award and agree to be contacted by the UN-Habitat organizing team.

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## TERMS AND CONDITIONS

If someone submits the initiative other than the copyright holder, it is assumed they have obtained permission and agreed to the terms outlined in points 1, 2, and 3.

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Supporting materials such as media articles (URL), videos (URL), and photographs (JPEG) are encouraged as part of the online submission.

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All details, including attachments, must be submitted online in English, following the nomination guidelines. Submissions in another language other than English will be disqualified. Each submission must strictly adhere to the word count limit per section.

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Submissions that do not meet the criteria are incomplete or are received after **30 April 2025** will not be considered.

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In case of questions please contact us at: [unhabitat-whd@un.org](mailto:unhabitat-whd@un.org)

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**TABLE:** SDG 11 – Make cities and human settlements inclusive, safe, resilient, and sustainable

TARGETS	CURRENT INDICATORS
<p><b>SDG Target 11.1</b> By 2030, ensure access for all to adequate, safe, and affordable housing and basic services and upgrade slums</p>	<p><b>11.1.1</b> Proportion of urban population living in slums, informal settlements, or inadequate housing</p>
<p><b>SDG Target 11.2</b> By 2030, provide access to safe, affordable, accessible, and sustainable transport systems for all, improving road safety, notably by expanding public transport, with special attention to the needs of those in vulnerable situations, women, children, persons with disabilities and older persons.</p>	<p><b>11.2.1</b> Proportion of population that has convenient access to public transport, by sex, age, and persons with disabilities</p>
<p><b>SDG Target 11.3</b> By 2030, enhance inclusive and sustainable urbanization and capacity for participatory, integrated, and sustainable human settlement planning and management in all countries.</p>	<p><b>11.3.1</b> Ratio of land consumption rate to population growth rate</p> <p><b>11.3.2</b> Proportion of cities with a direct participation structure of civil society in urban planning and management that operate regularly and democratically</p>
<p><b>SDG Target 11.4</b> Strengthen efforts to protect and safeguard the world's cultural and natural heritage</p>	<p><b>11.4.1</b> Total expenditure (public and private) per capita spent on the preservation, protection, and conservation of all cultural and natural heritage, by type of heritage (cultural, natural, mixed and World Heritage Centre designation), level of government (national, regional and local/municipal), type of expenditure (operating expenditure/ investment) and type of private funding (donations in kind, private non-profit sector, and sponsorship).</p>
<p><b>SDG Target 11.5</b> By 2030, significantly reduce the number of deaths and the number of people affected and substantially decrease the direct economic losses relative to global gross domestic product caused by disasters, including water related disasters, with a focus on protecting the poor and people in vulnerable situations.</p>	<p><b>11.5.1</b> Number of deaths, missing persons and directly affected persons attributed to disasters per 100,000 population.</p> <p><b>11.5.2</b> Direct disaster economic loss in relation to global GDP, damage to critical infrastructure and number of disruptions to basic services, attributed to disasters.</p>

**TARGETS**

**SDG Target 11.6** By 2030, reduce the adverse per capita environmental impact of cities, including by paying special attention to air quality and municipal and other waste management

**SDG Target 11.7** By 2030, provide universal access to safe, inclusive, and accessible, green, and public spaces, for women and children, older persons and persons with disabilities

**SDG Target 11.a** Support positive economic, social, and environmental links between urban, peri-urban, and rural areas by strengthening national and regional development planning.

**SDG Target 11.b** By 2020, substantially increase the number of cities and human settlements adopting and implementing integrated policies and plans towards inclusion, resource efficiency, mitigation and adaptation to climate change, resilience to disasters, and develop and implement, in line with the Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction 2015-2030, holistic disaster risk management at all levels.

**SDG Target 11.c** Support least developed countries, including through financial and technical assistance, in building sustainable and resilient buildings utilizing local materials.

**CURRENT INDICATORS**

**11.6.1** Proportion of urban solid waste regularly collected and with adequate final discharge out of total urban solid waste generated by cities.

**11.6.2** Annual mean levels of fine particulate matter (e.g. PM2.5 and PM10) in cities (population weighted).

**11.7.1** Average share of the built-up area of cities that is open space for public use for all, by sex, age, and persons with disabilities.

**11.7.2** Proportion of persons victim of physical or sexual harassment, by sex, age, disability status and place of occurrence, in the previous 12 months.

**11.a.1** Proportion of population living in cities that implement urban and regional development plans integrating population initiatives and resource needs, by size of city

**11.b.1** Number of countries that adopt and implement national disaster in line with the Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction 2015-2030a.

**11.b.2** Proportion of local governments that adopt and implement local disaster risk reduction strategies in line with national disaster risk reduction strategies

**11. c.1** Proportion of financial support to the least developed countries that is allocated to the construction and retrofitting of sustainable, resilient, and resource-efficient buildings utilizing local materials.



# SCROLL of HONOUR AWARD

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