

Consultation on the draft Strategic Plan 2026-2029 – written input GERMANY

- The Strategic Plan should outline clearly and explicitly that **human rights, gender equality, and non-discrimination** are fundamental to achieve sustainable urban development and squarely fall within UN-Habitat’s mandate.
- UN-Habitat’s strategic plan must align with **internationally agreed language**, particularly that of the **New Urban Agenda**.
- GER strongly advocates for the inclusion of terms in the strategic plan that explicitly **address the needs of vulnerable urban communities and marginalized groups**. Key terms such as “gender-based violence” and “marginalized communities” are internationally recognized and firmly established in the New Urban Agenda and other UN frameworks.
- If no consensus can be reached on the above-mentioned terms, we propose **adding “in all their diversity”** in paragraphs addressing the needs of women, girls, and other marginalized groups.
- For example in paragraph 31: *“Well-designed networks of accessible, green and high-quality public spaces, accessible to all and free from crime and sexual harassment – in view of the urgent need to **prevent and eliminate all forms of violence and harassment against women and girls in all their diversity** – along with safe and equitable mobility systems, are key to promoting inclusive prosperity.”*
- GER acknowledges the importance of ensuring that **Member States support the strategic plan and adopt it** during the continued UN-Habitat Assembly in May. To achieve this, broad consensus is needed. However, this should not come at the expense of fundamental principles such as human rights, gender equality, and inclusivity, which are essential to sustainable urban development and must remain integral to the plan’s narrative.
- GER underlines the need to **include reference to UN wide sector strategies related to UN Habitat’s** core mandate such as the UN Systemwide Strategy on Sanitation and Water. Financial scarcity increases the need for cooperation and coordination to leverage synergies across UN agencies.