# UN-Habitat Call for Housing Practices
# Frequently Asked Questions (FAQ)

Click on the submission form here

## What is the UN-Habitat Call for Housing Practices?

It is a global initiative to collect, promote, and share practical, proven and impactful housing solutions that support the implementation of the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), particularly SDG 11, and the New Urban Agenda. The call seeks to identify and showcase effective housing practices to foster peer-to-peer learning, inspire action, and inform policies and programmes globally.

## Who can participate and submit a housing practice?

All stakeholders are encouraged to participate and submit housing practices, including national and local governments, civil society organizations, community-based organizations, academic institutions, private sector entities, and development partners. Submissions may be made on behalf of another organization, provided proper consent and attribution are given.

## What can be submitted?

Initiatives or approaches that have demonstrated measurable success in addressing specific housing challenges across a variety of thematic areas. Submissions should show evidence of effectiveness, positive impact, sustainability, innovation, and potential for replication. We strongly encourage practices that have benefited a minimum of 500 households.

## Where will the selected housing practices be featured?

Depending on relevance, quality, and alignment with the needs of each initiative, selected practices may be featured in one or more of the following platforms:

- o **World Urban Forum Practices Hub** – A new space at WUF13 for exchanging practical solutions and fostering peer learning.
- o **World Cities Report 2026** – UN-Habitat's flagship report showcasing real-world housing solutions to be released at WUF13.
- o **Regional State of Cities Reports** - In-depth reports for Africa, Asia-Pacific, Latin America, Arab and Europe, offering valuable insights for urban development based on regional contexts.
- o **The Housing Knowledge Platform** – A global repository informing Member States and stakeholders to guide housing policy, in line with Resolution HSP/HA.2/Res.7.

## When can submissions be made?

Submissions can be made **until 31 August 2025.** The form will be closed after this date.

**Can I submit more than one housing practice?**

Yes, multiple submissions are allowed, provided each practice is submitted separately and meets the required criteria.

**In what language can I submit?**

Submissions can be made in English to ensure broad accessibility for assessment and dissemination.

**Can I provide supporting documents & use images/pictures in my submission?**

Yes, supporting documents such as reports, videos, and photographs are highly encouraged to strengthen your submission and illustrate the impact of your work. The form will allow you to provide links to a cloud storage platform of your choice (OneDrive, Google Drive, Dropbox, etc.) where you will need to upload relevant supporting documents and graphic materials.

**Can I save an unfinished application and return later to continue with the submission?**

Unfinished submissions might not be automatically saved. To avoid any possible loss of information, it is strongly suggested that submissions are prepared in advance and saved on a separate file before you start with the online form (Please refer to the **Annex** for the information requested).

**Who will select practices and what will be the selection criteria?**

Submissions will be evaluated by a technical team within UN-Habitat based on relevance and a set of criteria, including effectiveness, impact, innovation, sustainability, potential for replication, inclusivity, stakeholder engagement, policy uptake, and alignment with the seven components of adequate housing.

**When and how will I know if my submission has been selected?**

Selected entries will be contacted directly via email from unhabitat-housingpractices@un.org Due to the high volume of submissions, only selected practices will be notified. If you do not receive a notification by December 2025, please consider that your practice was not selected.

**Will I be sponsored to participate in events where my practice is featured?**

Please note that UN-Habitat will not sponsor participation in WUF and other events where selected submissions are featured.

**Who can I contact for more information?**

For more information, please contact: unhabitat-housingpractices@un.org

**Terms and Conditions**

All information submitted will be available for international exhibitions, publications, and media coverage without the need for further permission from the submitter. By submitting a practice, you consent to your personal data being stored and processed for the purpose of managing information on the practice and agree to being contacted by UN-Habitat.

## ANNEX: HOUSING PRACTICE SUBMISSION FORM

Please note that the form below is provided to help you prepare your responses in advance. However, submissions must be completed and submitted through the official digital form. File uploads or email submissions will **not** be accepted.

**Title of Housing Practice:**

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| --- |
|  |

**Information submitted by (Focal Point)**

| Full Name: |  |
| --- | --- |
| Organization: |  |
| Email address: |  |

**Main implementing organization**

| Implementing organization name: |  |
| --- | --- |
| Implementing organization location: |  |
| Implementing organization website: |  |
| Organization type: | ☐ National government  ☐ Private sector<br>☐ Subnational government ☐ Financial institution<br>☐ United Nations entity  ☐ Foundation and philanthropy<br>☐ Civil society  ☐ University and research institution<br>☐ Other  If other, please specify: _____ |

**Practice Location**

| Geographic region: | ☐ Africa  ☐ Latin America and the Caribbean<br>☐ Asia  ☐ Northern America<br>☐ Europe  ☐ Oceania<br>  ☐ Global |
| --- | --- |
| Country(ies): |  |
| City(ies)/town(s): |  |

**Housing Thematic Focus**

Which of the following thematic areas does your housing practice strongly address? (maximum4)

☐ **Housing Affordability and Financing:** approaches improving access to affordable housing through financing models, subsidies, regulatory fiscal and administrative reforms, public-private partnerships, community-led financing models.

☐ **Social Housing:** approaches for the provision of social and public housing, including through partnership with cooperatives and communities.

☐ **Rental Housing:** approaches for the provision of adequate and affordable housing for all through public and private housing rental schemes, rental policies, and regulating the short- and long-term rental housing markets.

☐ **Communal and Self-Build Housing:** approaches for the provision of adequate and affordable housing for all through establishing and supporting communal housing approaches, and regulating and stimulating adequate self-built housing.

☐ **Housing and Informality**: approaches transforming or preventing the expansion of informal settlements and slums.

☐ **Housing Rights and Social Inclusion:** approaches that specifically target discriminated groups to ensure access to safe, inclusive, and dignified housing by reducing structural inequalities, combating discrimination, ensuring gender equality, and protecting marginalized populations from exclusion and housing-related injustices.

☐ **Housing in Crisis and Displacement Contexts:** approaches leveraging housing to prevent or mitigate displacement, safeguarding housing rights in crisis contexts, or providing durable housing solutions for displaced populations and adequate housing for crisis-affected populations.

☐ **Housing and Climate Mitigation:** approaches promoting low-carbon and energy-efficient housing through sustainable construction techniques, water-efficient solutions, and the use or re-use of traditional and/or modern materials and methods that reduce greenhouse gas emissions.

☐ **Housing and Climate Adaptation:** approaches fostering climate-resilient housing that provide safety from climate hazards and are built with techniques and planning methods that reduce the risk of damage from climate change impacts, contributing to climate-responsive and sustainable housing.

☐ **Housing, Land and Spatial Planning**: approaches that create the conditions for adequate housing through land management and land administration reforms, provision of serviced land

in suitable locations, and urban and territorial planning interventions that promote inclusive, well-connected, and culturally appropriate neighborhoods where housing is well integrated within the urban fabric, have access to services, jobs, healthy living environments, and high quality of life, while promoting holistic urban development.

☐ **Housing Policy, Legislation and Governance:** policies, legal and regulatory frameworks, and governance mechanisms promoting the delivery, upgrading and maintenance of adequate housing, guiding housing development, protecting housing rights, and facilitating cross-sectoral coordination and stakeholder engagement.

☐ **Housing Data and Monitoring**: approaches for spatially and socially disaggregated data collection, monitoring, and evaluation to inform housing strategies, track progress, assess housing policy impact to ensure housing interventions are effective, transparent, and aligned with community needs.

☐ **Technology and Digital Solutions in Housing**: approached leveraging innovative technologies and digital tools to improve housing affordability, enhance resilience, optimize urban planning, and support data-driven decision-making, while promoting inclusive and sustainable housing.

## Adequate Housing Elements

Which aspects of adequate housing does this practice address? *Please select all for which the practice makes a clear and strong contribution:*

☐ **Security of tenure:** strengthens tenure security which guarantees legal protection against forced evictions, harassment, or other threats.

☐ **Availability of services, materials, facilities, and infrastructure**: ensures access to essential services such as safe drinking water, adequate sanitation, energy for cooking, heating, lighting, food storage or refuse disposal.

☐ **Affordability:** helps ensure that housing costs do not threaten or compromise people's ability to meet other essential needs and enjoy other human rights.

☐ **Habitability:** guarantees physical safety, adequate space, protection from weather, and a healthy living environment.

☐ **Accessibility**: addresses the specific needs of disadvantaged and marginalized groups, such as persons with disabilities, older people, or low-income communities.

☐ **Location:** promotes housing that is well-situated in relation to jobs, schools, healthcare, childcare and other social facilities, and is in safe, non-polluted areas.

| |
|---|
| ☐ **Cultural adequacy**: respects and reflects the cultural identity of residents in the design, construction, and use of housing. |

## Linkages with the Sustainable Development Goals

Specify all Sustainable Development Goals the practice addresses most significantly (maximum 4)

☐ SDG1 – No Poverty
☐ SDG2 – Zero Hunger
☐ SDG3 – Good Health and Well-being
☐ SDG4 – Quality Education
☐ SDG5 – Gender Equality
☐ SDG6 – Clean Water and Sanitation
☐ SDG7 – Affordable and Clean Energy
☐ SDG8 – Decent Work and Economic Growth
☐ SDG9 – Industry, Innovation, and Infrastructure

☐ SDG 10 – Reduced Inequalities
☐ SDG11 – Sustainable Cities and Communities
☐ SDG12 – Responsible Consumption and Production
☐ SDG13 – Climate Action
☐ SDG14 – Life Below Water
☐ SDG15 – Life on Land
☐ SDG16 – Peace, Justice and Strong Institutions
☐ SDG17 – Partnerships for the Goals

## Date of Implementation

| | |
|---|---|
| Start year: | |
| Implementation still ongoing? (Y/N) - If not, please input the end date. | ☐ Yes      ☐ No, End Year: |

## Problem and Context (1,000 characters)

o   Clearly outline the specific problems or challenges addressed and the context in which they emerged.
o   Identify existing gaps in policy that contributed to the problem.

## Solution Developed (1,200 characters)

o   Explain how concretely the housing practice aimed to address the challenge and who have been the target beneficiaries.
o   Summarise the objectives of the housing practice implemented to address the challenge.
o   Highlight any innovative or unique approaches that made the solution effective (technological, social, institutional innovations etc.).

## Implementation (1,500 characters)

o   Describe the different actions implemented as part of the solution.
o   Identify the actors involved (government bodies, NGOs, private sector, community groups etc.), their roles and level of participation.
o   Provide a brief timeline of the implementation process, from planning to execution.
o   Describe the resources, financial inputs, and partnerships that supported implementation.

**Enablers & Obstacles (1,000 characters)**

- Identify the key drivers and enablers that supported the implementation of the solution (e.g., political buy-in, community engagement, technology, regulatory frameworks, data availability, capacities)
- Outline any obstacles encountered during the implementation phase and how they were addressed.

**Results & Impact (1,500 characters)**

- Present quantitative and qualitative results achieved by the housing practice, including specific data, indicators or evidence. Please provide the links to relevant documents that support these results (e.g., data tables, reports etc.)
- Specifically explain impacts on low-income households and marginalized groups.
- Discuss the broader and longer-term impacts on the community, economy, and environment.
- Where applicable, specify the number of people or households benefiting from the housing practice (we strongly encourage practices that benefited a minimum of 500 households).

**Replication & Scale up**

- Was the housing practice replicated elsewhere?
  - If yes, please specify where and describe the key factors that enabled successful replication. *(600 characters)*
  - If not, explain what would make this practice replicable in other regions or contexts. Highlight any contextual factors that would be critical for replication of this approach in other contexts.*(600 characters)*
- How can this housing practice be scaled up to expand its scope and reach? *(600 characters)*

**Policy Uptake**

Please indicate if the housing practice:

☐ is a new or innovative practice that is not yet adequately or fully integrated into formal policy frameworks? *Provide recommendations to embed this initiative into policy frameworks (600 characters)*

☐ has informed or been partially integrated into policy discussions, strategies, or pilot-level policy instruments? *If applicable, please explain. (600 characters)*

☐ has been fully adopted into formal policy frameworks and legislation, and is being implemented at scale with institutional support? *If applicable, please explain. (600 characters)*

**Lessons & Takeaways (600 characters)**

- What specific aspects of your housing practice would you revise, improve, or approach differently in hindsight?
- For information: Have any training materials been developed based on the insights gained from this practice?
  - ☐ Yes          ☐ No

| References |
| --- |
| Please provide the link to available references on the housing practice, including articles, publications, media reports, training materials. You can use the cloud storage platforms of your choice (OneDrive, Google Drive, Dropbox etc.) |

| Supporting Pictures/Graphic material |
| --- |
| Please provide the link to graphic material, photos and videos documenting the housing practice. You can use the cloud storage platforms of your choice (OneDrive, Google Drive, Dropbox etc.) |