



## Global Stakeholder Forum

**Organized within the context of the resumed second session of the United Nations Habitat Assembly**

### Concept Note

**Theme:** Stakeholders' perspective on the implementation of the Strategic Plan 2026 – 2029 and the Stakeholder Engagement Policy.

**Date:** 22 – 23 May 2025, 14:00 – 17:00hrs daily.

**Location:** [Online: Webinar link to be shared with registered participants](#)

### Introduction

The Global Stakeholder Forum is intended to allow relevant stakeholders to strategize around key issues under discussion by the United Nations Habitat Assembly. It gives voice to stakeholders as they support the work of UN-Habitat. The 2025 Global Stakeholder Forum will focus on two out of the three agenda items and overall objectives of the resumed session of the United Nations Habitat Assembly in the context of UN-Habitat's mandate and programme delivery mainly:

1. The UN-Habitat Strategic Plan 2026–2029 focuses on three areas: *access to adequate housing, land, and basic services*. These priorities aim to create sustainable, inclusive, and resilient cities and communities aligned with the New

Urban Agenda and the 2030 Agenda. The proposed Strategic Plan will be considered by the resumed second session of the United Nations Habitat Assembly for adoption, 29 – 30 May 2025 in Nairobi, Kenya.

2. The Stakeholder Engagement Policy (SEP): The ad hoc working group on the *Stakeholder Engagement Policy* aims to finalize and submit a draft to the Chair of the Executive Board and the President of the Assembly for consideration. If approved at the resumed session of the Assembly, the policy will guide stakeholder engagement in UN-Habitat's intergovernmental meetings, particularly on accreditation and stakeholder relevance to the agency's work. It will also create opportunities for stakeholders to form meaningful coalitions, strengthening their voice in engaging Member States and shaping decisions and policies for sustainable development.

In line with above-mentioned proposed Strategic Plan 2026-2029 and Stakeholder Engagement Policy, UN-Habitat is working towards strengthening stakeholder engagement in the 13th Session of the World Urban Forum (WUF13) to be held in Baku, Azerbaijan in May 2026 and beyond. To this end a stakeholder engagement roadmap to WUF13 will be operationalised for meaningful stakeholder engagement in key aspects of WUF13. This includes enabling stakeholder inputs to the outcomes of WUF 13 (Baku Call to Action), advance preparations for WUF 14 events, and inputs towards the strategic directions of the Forum. The World Urban Forum is a



major non-legislative Forum mandated by the United Nations General Assembly to serve as a platform where experts from diverse fields and entities convene and deliberate on housing, sustainable urban development and human settlements. WUF is also intended to strengthen coordination of international support to implementation of global commitments, especially the New Urban Agenda (NUA), Sustainable Development Goals (SDG) in particular SDG11 and other urban related goals. WUF12 in Egypt concluded with the Cairo Call to Action, calling for a swift response to the global housing crisis and to leveraging local efforts, while highlighting the need for a systemic representation of stakeholders in multi-level decision-making processes.

WUF13 and the Global Stakeholder Forum mark key opportunities to discuss the role of stakeholders in the implementation and monitoring of the Strategic Plan and SEP, and to consider milestones related the midpoint review of the New Urban Agenda (NUA) and Sustainable Development Goal 11. In 2026, the United Nations Secretary-General will present to the UN General Assembly a mid-term review as a quadrennial report on progress in the implementation of NUA. Further a High-Level Meeting of the General Assembly on the mid-term review of the New Urban Agenda is planned following, or preceding, the 2026 High-Level Political Forum (HLPF) on Sustainable Development. The HLPF will review global progress on SDG 11, SDG 17, and other selected Goals.

In the above context, the Global Stakeholder Forum will provide a platform for stakeholders to engage in discussions on how to advance the above matters towards the broader objective of promoting sustainable cities and communities.

### Objectives

1. Foster inclusive discussions on the role of stakeholders in the implementation and monitoring of UN-Habitat's proposed Strategic Plan 2026–2029, especially partnerships, coalitions and advocacy, as well as of the pending Stakeholder Engagement Policy.
2. Build consensus on a Declaration of the Global Stakeholder Forum to be delivered by accredited stakeholder during UNHA 2.2.
3. Enhance stakeholder support for monitoring and reporting on implementation of the New Urban Agenda and SDG11, including sharing of good practices, as well as the preparations for the thirteenth session of the World Urban Forum

### Format

The Forum will be conducted fully online and will bring together representatives from civil society, grassroots organizations, academia, the private sector, local and regional governments, and other key urban actors. It will feature high-level panel, and interactive sessions and discussions to ensure diverse stakeholder engagement, as well as digital consultation tools.

The GSF will center around stakeholder contribution to the implementation of the Strategic Plan and its



priorities of housing, land, and basic services. The GSF will address partnerships and coalitions in the context of integrated urban planning, participatory multilevel governance, localizing SDGs, and data and analytics. Additionally, the GSF will consider implementation of the Stakeholder Engagement Policy including essentials for inclusive stakeholder engagement mechanism.

The duration of the GSF will be two days, from 14:00hrs to 17:00 hrs. (EAT). The agenda will be structured to ensure effective participation, in-depth discussions, and actionable outcomes.

### Participation

The Global Stakeholder Forum will be open to all stakeholder categories. Invitations will be sent to all stakeholders, with particular attention given to partners who have been actively engaged in UN-Habitat's intergovernmental meetings, those who responded to the Strategic Plan survey, as well as those involved in Member States meetings and consultations on the stakeholder engagement policy. This inclusive approach ensures broad representation while recognizing stakeholders who have demonstrated ongoing commitment to UN-Habitat's processes.

### Expected outputs:

1. A joint declaration to be delivered to the resumed session of the United Nations Habitat Assembly, including key recommendations of stakeholders in advancing the objectives of the Strategic Plan 2026 – 2029, the draft Stakeholder

Engagement Policy, as well as the mid-term review of the NUA and the 2026 HLPF global review of SDG 11.

2. A report on the Global Stakeholder Forum.

### Focal Points

*Partnership Office in coordination with the Office of the Executive Director*

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## Agenda

<b>DAY 1</b>	<b>22 MAY 2025</b>	
	2.00 – 3.00 PM	<p>Opening</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Moderator: <i>Ms. Amanda Entriakin, Habitat for Humanity International</i></li> <li>- Overview of the Strategic Plan 2026 – 2029: <i>Ms. Anaclaudia Rossbach, United Nations Under-Secretary General and Executive Director, UN-Habitat</i></li> <li>- Plenary Discussion</li> </ul>
	3.00 – 4.10 PM	<p>Breakout Discussions – Components of the Strategic Plan 2026 – 2029</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- <i>Breakout Session 1 Housing</i></li> <li>- <i>Breakout Session 2 Land</i></li> <li>- <i>Breakout Session 3 Basic Services</i></li> <li>- <i>Breakout Session 4 Resilience</i></li> <li>- <i>Breakout Session 5 Climate Change</i></li> <li>- <i>Breakout Session 6 Urban Planning &amp; Finance</i></li> <li>- <i>Breakout Session 7 Informality</i></li> <li>- <i>Breakout Session 8 Partnerships, coalitions and advocacy</i></li> </ul>
	5 Minutes Break	
	4.15 – 5.00 PM	<p>Breakout Moderators report to plenary</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- 3 Minutes each</li> <li>- Q&amp;A and reflections</li> </ul>
<b>DAY 2</b>	<b>23 MAY 2025</b>	
	2.00 – 3.10 PM	<p>Moderator: <i>Pablo Fernández Marmissolle-Daguerre, United Cities and Local Governments</i></p> <p>Plenary – Stakeholder Engagement Policy</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Overview By Hon. Miguel Luís, Deputy Permanent Representative to UNEP and UN-Habitat</li> <li>- Q&amp;A</li> </ul> <p>Plenary – Stakeholder contribution to the mid-term review of the NUA</p> <p><i>Presentation by Bobae Lee, UN-Habitat</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Stakeholder contribution to SDG11 reporting</li> <li>- <i>Presentation by Robert Ndugwa, UN-Habitat</i></li> <li>- Q&amp;A</li> </ul>
	5 Minutes Break	
	3.15 – 4.35 PM	<p>Plenary – Consolidation of key recommendations for UNHA 2.2 and beyond</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- <i>Drafting of a GSF outcome document and key messages for delivery at UNHA 2.2 and beyond</i></li> </ul>
	4.35 – 5.00 PM	<p>Presentation of key Forum outcomes and next steps</p> <p>Closing Remarks</p>

## Annex – Background documents:

- [Drafted UN-Habitat Strategic Plan 2026–2029](#)
- [Drafted UN-Habitat Stakeholder Engagement Policy](#) - *Draft of 14 March 2025*
- [Drafted Declaration of the Global Stakeholder Forum](#)

