



Sustaining UN-Habitat in Africa | The ADC Retreat 2025

Presented by: Oumar Sylla, Director, ROAf
May 2025

Table of Contents



An Overview of [Urbanization Trends](#)

.....

An Overview of [UN-Habitat Programmatic activities in the region](#)

.....

Update on [the Regional Architecture](#) in ROAf

.....

[Sustaining UN-Habitat](#) in the Region

.....

[Way Forward](#)

.....

Urbanization Trends

Major Urban Challenges



Global Housing Crisis

(Housing deficit in Africa
is estimated to be over
97 million units.)



Environmental degradation and Climate change

(Recurring and Prevailing
floods and prologued dry
season has been the norm
in African cities)



Conflict and Unrest

(In 2023, 32.5
million people were
displaced by conflict
and violence in Africa)

Urbanization Trends

Africa Urban Forum
Increased Focus on Urban Development at the highest level of Governance through the Africa Urban Forum

National Urban Forums
Increased National Urban Forums

UNSDCF
Increased Focus on Urban related issues within UN System, i.e UNSDCF

Gains for Urbanization in the continent

Urbanization and the National Development plans

Integration of Urban trends and strategies into the National Development plans

Urban Focus within the IFIs

Increased focus on the Urban sector by International financial Institution (IFIs)



Highlight of UN-Habitat Programmatic activities in the region



UN-Habitat in Sub Saharan Africa

Sustainable Housing solution for Africa



Towards a Sustainable Housing solution for Africa

Housing delivery can unlock socio-economic benefits both at the household level and at the National level.



Ghana Housing Profile

Ghana Housing Profile is a valuable resource for Housing delivery in Ghana. It outlines gaps and opportunities in the sector

Eco-Village Resettlement Project in Sao Tome and Principe

133 Houses were constructed benefiting 511 members of the Roça Sundry/Terra Prometida community



UN-Habitat in Sub Saharan Africa

Recovery and reconstruction after humanitarian crisis



Durable solutions in Humanitarian crisis

Social integration is key to ensure future conflicts are averted and social wellbeing of the displaced communities and host communities are taken cared for.



Mozambique

Sustainable and gender sensitive integration of IDPs in Pemba, through provision of basic services to over 50,000 IDPs

Burkina Faso

Community driven services for IDPs through construction of Houses for 2,000 IDP families.

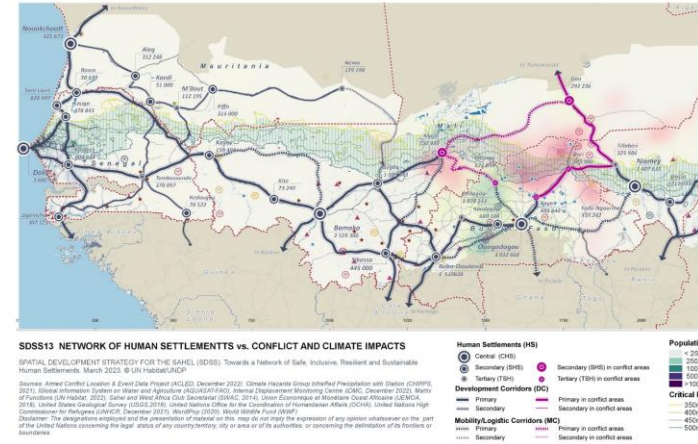


UN-Habitat in Sub Saharan Africa

Achieving Equitable Urban Form and sustainable urbanization

Urban Planning for Sustainable development

Urban planning cuts across different dimensions and can ensure equitable and just growth of African cities

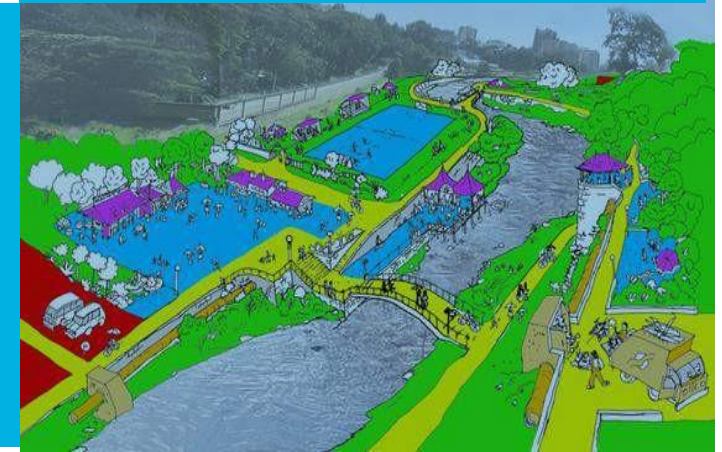


Spatial Development Framework (SDF) for Sahel

SDF aims to attract structural investments for Regional, national and city level development.

Regional Planning in Ethiopia

With the Support of the Federal Government Ethiopia and World Bank, UN-Habitat was able to develop 9 regional states plans for Ethiopia.



UN-Habitat in Sub Saharan Africa



Resilience towards Climate induced crisis

Environment and Climate action.

Urban Resilience will strengthen the city's capacity to handle shocks brought about by extreme climatic events.



Strengthening Urban Climate resilience in Ghana and Cote D Ivoire

The Project will strengthen community and local authorities' capacity towards climate induced crisis.

Strengthening Urban Climate resilience in Southeastern Africa

The Project has impacted approx. **350,000 people** in the target cities with more than 50% being women and youth.



UN-Habitat in Sub Saharan Africa

Increased Municipal Finance, increased Local Action

Improved Municipal Finance

Municipal finance are essential to increase local action in the urban communities.

Rapid Own Source Revenue Analysis of Kisumu October 2019

*This study was carried out in collaboration with the County Government of Kisumu and served as a pilot of UN-Habitat's methodology on enhancing Own Source Revenues (ROSRA)
For further information contact Lennart.fleck@un.org*

UN-HABITAT
FOR A BETTER URBAN FUTURE



Somalia

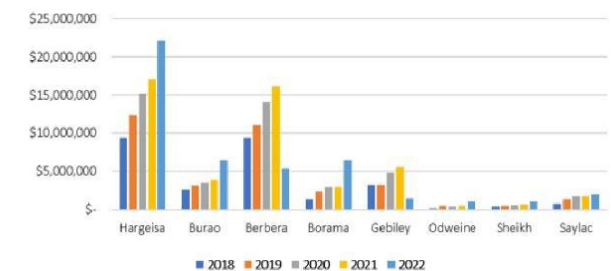
Increased local revenue generation up to 300%, through digitalizing functions and upscaling existing automated systems to sustain delivery of basic social services.

Own Source Revenue Analysis for Kisumu, Kenya

UN-Habitat analysis showed that the county Government has the potential of increasing it's revenue collection.

3.1 Revenue increase in Somaliland

Figure 2: Total Revenue for Somaliland Districts 2018-2022 JPLG III



UN-Habitat in Sub Saharan Africa

Action towards Municipal solid waste

Strengthening Capacity towards Solid Waste Management

UN-Habitat has been working in the solid waste sector to improve the capacity of local authorities in managing Municipal waste



Strengthened Capacity towards Solid waste Management In Kenya

Under the Go Blue project, UN-Habitat supported Taita Taveta County in development of solid waste management strategy and construction of the Material Recovery Facility.

Fukuoka method semi-aerobic landfill

We finalized the implementation of the cutting-edge, semi-aerobic 'Fukuoka method' landfill – a natural farming approach – in the city of Berbera, Somaliland, signifying advancement in environmental infrastructure development



UN-Habitat in Sub Saharan Africa

Improving Access to Land



Advancing Land Tenure Security for Vulnerable communities



Land Reform in Uganda

In Uganda, we have issued over 3,900 certificates of Customary ownership (COOS) and over 7,900 have been approved by the District land Boards. Additionally, over 92 Land disputes have been resolved.

Land Reforms in DRC

In DRC Ituri and Mai Ndombe area we have mapped and issued customary certificates to over 600 families and over 160 land conflict, this has gone a long way to solve 60% of land conflict. More work on Land reforms are ongoing in DRC.



UN-Habitat in Sub Saharan Africa

Working with International financial institutions

IFIs are can be a
act as a catalyst
for further
financing for urban
development in
Africa.

Financing Urban Development

With World Bank, UN-Habitat Supported Resilient reconstruction of 3,000 Classrooms (Safer Schools approach) in Mozambique.

With AfDB, UN-Habitat is supporting the development of an Eco masterplan in Eswatini.

UN-Habitat is negotiating an MOU agreement with **DBSA**, to strengthen the capacity of **African cities** to respond to urbanization challenges.

UN-Habitat and **ISDB** are active partners, currently engaging on working with a selected number of countries in **Africa**.



How we work in the region: Sustaining UN- Habitat in the Region



Ongoing Country Operations

Programme and Project Portfolio

2020-2024

**USD
180 Million**

Value of Cumulative ROAf
acquired projects between
(2020-2024)

Year	Value of Acquired Projects (USD)
2020	27,385,734
2021	44,455,741
2022	23,299,654
2023	54,051,574
2024	36,245,160

Ongoing Country Operations



54 Projects

Number of currently ongoing projects in the region



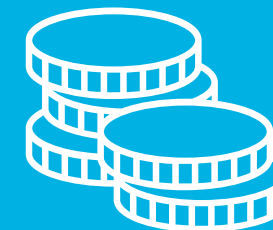
USD 88.7 Million

Value of Ongoing



23 Countries

Number of Countries with Ongoing Projects



7 / 36 Current Donors

Number of African Member state that form up the Donor list out of 36 Donors.

Establishment of UN-Habitat Country presence

Support to UN-Habitat Projects in the County



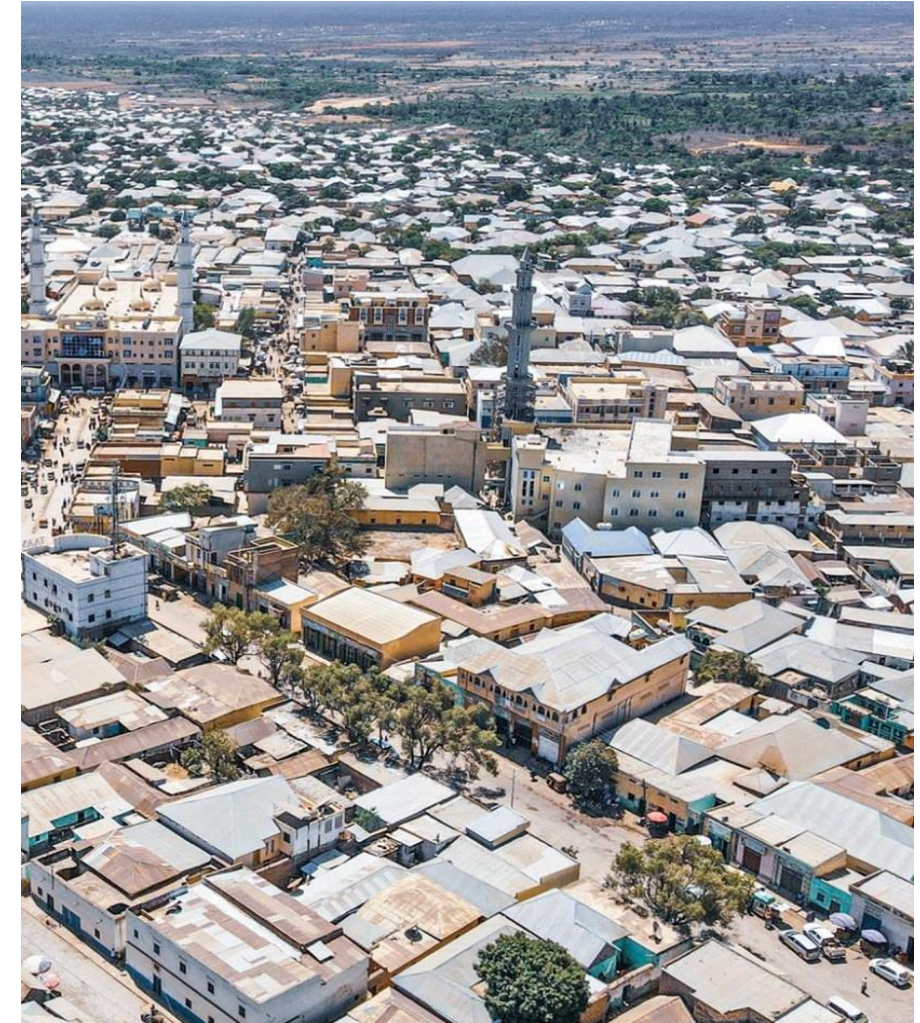
Best practices of Country programmatic operations in the region

1. **Through Project Delivery offices:** This modality dominates UN-Habitat Country operations in the region with majority of the Country offices being form using this modality; e.g Burkina Faso, DRC, Ethiopia, Malawi, Mozambique, Guinea Bissau, Cote D Ivoire, Ghana etc
2. **Through Host Country Agreements;** It is less dominant but more preferred because it has a level of sustainability and needs support by host Government. Some of the countries with this modality include Kenya, Cameroun, Nigeria, Botswana and South Africa.

Looking Ahead

Lessons Learnt from Project implementation in Africa

- There is a need to Increase UN-Habitat Capacity to catalyze more programmatic funds. A good example is Mozambique country programme portfolio growth.
- Increase UN-Habitat Technical Advisory role for Government projects and International Financial institutions
- Need to Build capacity at the local level. Both Community and Local authorities.
- Need to continue strengthening Urbanization context in UNSCDF (UN Cooperation frameworks)
- Need to continue strengthening urban context in the National development plans.



Thank you!



<https://unhabitat.org/africa-region>

