



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Registration opens for the UN's largest urban conference – WUF13 in Baku

Nairobi, 24 September 2025 – Registration is now open for the thirteenth session of the World Urban Forum (WUF13), the leading global conference on sustainable urbanization. The Forum will take place in Baku, Azerbaijan, from 17 to 22 May 2026, under the theme: **“Housing the world: Safe and resilient cities and communities.”**

Convened by UN-Habitat and co-hosted by the Government of the Republic of Azerbaijan, WUF13 is expected to bring together thousands of participants – national and local leaders, mayors, ministers, private sector innovators, civil society, grassroots organizations, urban planners and academics – to tackle one of today's most urgent challenges: the global housing crisis.

Today, nearly 3 billion people live in inadequate housing conditions, with over 1.1 billion in informal settlements and more than 300 million experiencing homelessness. These challenges are being amplified by climate change, conflict and growing inequality. WUF13 will put adequate housing at the centre of the global agenda and turn words into action.

Different organizations are encouraged to apply to host events for the partner-led part of the programme or showcase solutions at the Urban Expo – one of the Forum's most dynamic features, bringing together innovative approaches from governments, cities, businesses and communities. Application details for partner-led events and the Urban Expo will be available soon on the WUF13 website.

Registration is required for both in-person and virtual participation at the thirteenth session of the World Urban Forum.

For more information and to register, visit wuf.unhabitat.org/wuf13.

About the World Urban Forum

Established in 2001 by the United Nations General Assembly, the World Urban Forum is the premier global conference on sustainable urbanization, designed to examine the impacts of rapid urbanization on cities, communities, economies, and climate change. Since its

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inception, WUF has been hosted in cities across the world, with the first session held in Nairobi, Kenya, in 2002.

About UN-Habitat

UN-Habitat is the United Nations entity responsible for sustainable urbanization. It has programmes in over 90 countries supporting policymakers and communities to create socially and environmentally sustainable cities and towns. UN-Habitat promotes transformative change in cities through knowledge, policy advice, technical assistance, and collaborative action. To know more, visit unhabitat.org or follow us on social media @UNHABITAT.

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