



Executive Board of the United Nations
Human Settlements Programme
Third session of 2025
Nairobi, 25 and 26 November 2025
Item 8 of the provisional agenda*

Normative and operational activities of UN-Habitat, including reporting on the programmatic activities of UN-Habitat and the implementation of subprogrammes, flagship programmes and technical cooperation activities and the engagement of UN-Habitat in countries, territories and areas affected by conflict and disaster

Normative and operational activities of the United Nations Human Settlements Programme, including updates on country programmes in Nigeria and in the Philippines, cooperation with local and regional governments, urban crises prevention and response, and activities for the period January–June 2025

Report of the Executive Director

I. Introduction

1. The present report is focused on the normative and operational activities of the United Nations Human Settlements Programme (UN-Habitat). It is structured as follows: sections II and III provide information on UN-Habitat support to middle-income countries, as illustrated by its country programmes for Nigeria and the Philippines. Through these two different examples, the report showcases a diverse range of integrated, balanced and mutually reinforcing normative and operational solutions, addressing varied contexts and challenges. Section IV provides insights into UN-Habitat initiatives to advance cooperation with local and regional governments, and section V provides updates on support provided by UN-Habitat in areas affected by conflicts and disasters, covering the period January–June 2025. The report is accompanied by document HSP/EB.2025/INF/15, in which subprogramme activities over the period January–June 2025 are highlighted; document HSP/EB.2025/INF/16, presenting the UN-Habitat strategy for the transition of its flagship programmes; document HSP/EB.2025/INF/17, on activities in Ukraine; and document HSP/EB.2025/INF/18, on the status of the development of the efforts to reconstruct the human settlements in the Gaza Strip.

II. Updates on the Nigeria country programme

2. This section of the report provides an update on the normative and operational activities of UN-Habitat in Nigeria, a country of significant population growth and urbanization. It highlights how

* HSP/EB.2025/16.

the Nigeria country programme addresses urban challenges by linking policy-level (normative) work with on-the-ground (operational) project implementation across a range of urban issues and in close collaboration with national and local governments and other partners.

A. UN-Habitat in Nigeria: context and background

3. Rapid population growth and urbanization in Nigeria are presenting opportunities and challenges. With a population of over 206 million,¹ a young demographic profile and an urban population growth rate of 4.7 per cent per year,² Nigeria is set to become the world's third most populous country by 2050. This rapid urban transformation has been met with issues, including a significant housing deficit (estimated at 16–18 million units³), a growing slum population (over 60 million⁴) and limited coverage of land administration (less than 5 per cent of all land is formally registered⁵). These issues have been compounded by an influx of internally displaced persons into cities and large metropolitan areas, such as Lagos, Ibadan and Kano, thus limiting capacities to deliver basic services and effectively manage urban growth.

4. UN-Habitat engagement in Nigeria began in 1994 and was formalized by a memorandum of understanding signed with the Government of Nigeria in 2003. The memorandum of understanding established the UN-Habitat Programme Support Office, with the aim of providing technical and managerial assistance for sustainable urbanization. This relationship, and its alignment with national and international policies, has been crucial to the ability of UN-Habitat to operate effectively in a middle-income country context.

B. Normative and operational activities under the Nigeria country programme

5. Under the UN-Habitat Nigeria country programme, policy guidance is leveraged to inform field-level projects; in turn, the lessons learned from those projects are used to refine policy recommendations. This approach is a hallmark of the work of UN-Habitat in Nigeria, a middle-income country where normative and operational linkages are critical to sustainability and replicability.

1. Enhanced urban and regional planning, implementation and monitoring

6. A significant focus has been on enhancing urban planning and governance. Between 2008 and 2020, UN-Habitat provided technical assistance for the formulation of 20-year structure plans for 20 cities across four states. This highly participatory process, in which stakeholders at all levels were engaged, demonstrated the successful application of the Rapid Urban Sector Profiling for Sustainability methodology. The structure plans set out the guidelines for future growth and decision-making. The on-the-ground development of the methodology helped to build local capacity and informed strategic decision-making among local communities, governments and state officials. This replicable approach provided a robust tool for coordinated development.

7. The preparation of a master plan for the city of Aba, a commercial hub facing slum proliferation, environmental degradation and inadequate basic services, is a recent example of the elaboration of structure plans. The master plan, which was finalized in July 2025, serves as a comprehensive framework to guide the city's future growth. It addresses the city's challenges and provides a basis for economic summits to showcase the state's potential. Having such instruments in place is a crucial step for a middle-income country like Nigeria, as they serve as robust, evidence-based tools that can attract foreign investment and enable informed, strategic decision-making. The master plan also contributes to improving urban conditions for residents and enhancing the business environment through multi-stakeholder participation.

8. Furthermore, a partnership with the Foreign, Commonwealth and Development Office of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland and the Global Future Cities Programme has produced guidelines for urban renewal in Lagos and an urban master plan for the city of Abeokuta.

¹ Nigeria, National Population Commission, *Nigeria Population Projections and Demographic Indicators: National and States* (Abuja, 2020).

² United Nations, Department of Economic and Social Affairs, Population Division, *World Urbanization Prospects: The 2018 Revision*, ST/ESA/SER.A/420 (New York, 2019), p. 74.

³ World Bank Group, *Nigeria: Developing Housing Finance* (Washington, D.C., 2016).

⁴ UN-Habitat, "Proportion of urban population living in slum households by country, 1990–2018", Urban Indicators Database. Available at <https://data.unhabitat.org/pages/datasets>.

⁵ Ahmed Musa Dangiwa, Minister of Housing and Urban Development, statement on a stakeholders' workshop on the National Land Registration, Documentation and Titling Programme, Lagos, 12 August 2025.

Throughout its work in Lagos and Abeokuta, UN-Habitat has applied the Sustainable Development Goal project assessment tool to encourage social inclusion and sustainability in operational projects. Stakeholder forums established as part of the Programme serve as a replicable model for other urban projects, ensuring that the needs of affected communities and disadvantaged groups are mainstreamed throughout the various stages of a project.

2. Strengthened urban environment and climate action

9. A key normative activity aimed at strengthening climate action and improving the urban environment involved a project, partly funded by the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) and implemented from 2013 to 2016, on mainstreaming energy efficiency measures into the Nigerian National Building Code, thus providing a foundational policy for sustainable construction practices. UN-Habitat provided high-level technical guidance, which led to nationwide impact.

10. Operationally, UN-Habitat has provided support for the implementation of the Niger State Development Agenda, which included the preparation of a state urban development policy and a development plan for the state capital, Minna. These plans serve as a framework for future projects, which include the development of a new smart town, near Suleja, to address urban congestion.

11. Through the Water for African Cities Programme (2004–2008), access to water was improved for the urban poor in the city of Jos. The programme not only extended water services to 40,000 people and reduced the share of unaccounted-for water from 76 per cent to 54 per cent, it also provided valuable lessons. The project's documentation highlighted the need for a city-wide, accepted water strategy. The award-winning Bodija Market borehole project stands as a best practice project for community-led waste management and service delivery, as recognized by the 2001 Dubai International Best Practices Award for Sustainable Development.

12. Regarding crisis response, UN-Habitat implemented a coronavirus disease (COVID-19) response and resilient recovery project in the Karu local government area of Nasarawa State and in Yobe State. This operational activity provided emergency water sources (six solar-motorized boreholes) and hand-washing stations. Through the project, UN-Habitat generated normative knowledge, such as the Karu urban profile, a tool designed to facilitate evidence-based development planning. Training programmes for local authorities provided valuable capacity-building, which is essential to ensure sustainability and replicability.

3. Effective urban crisis prevention and response

13. In Nigeria, the acute increase in persons with humanitarian needs, particularly as a consequence of forced displacement in the north-east of the country, has led to a significant influx of internally displaced persons into urban areas. The UN-Habitat response illustrates its ability to work at the intersection of humanitarian and development needs, strengthening the humanitarian-development-peace nexus. This is a critical area of focus for a middle-income country with a significant number of internally displaced populations.

14. Normatively, UN-Habitat, in partnership with UNDP and other system entities, is developing a spatial development strategy for the Sahel. This regional initiative will provide a comprehensive framework for building community resilience across seven countries, including, in Nigeria, the participating States of Adamawa, Borno, Kano and Yobe. The initiative exemplifies the role of UN-Habitat in developing high-level, replicable strategies that guide operational work, building on a regional assessment of urban resilience.

15. Operationally, UN-Habitat has reinforced the resilience of internally displaced persons through various projects, such as one on the sustainable socioeconomic recovery of Adamawa State, in partnership with the International Organization for Migration. UN-Habitat will use a multiscale, integrated and area-based approach to address challenges related to forced displacement, insufficient urban planning and limited access to services. A European Union-funded joint programme, which commenced in January 2025, will facilitate durable solutions through local integration of internally displaced persons into urban and urbanizing areas, with a specific focus on women and children. The approach is a valuable model for other middle-income countries facing similar challenges, as it focuses on sustainable integration and addresses long-term issues such as land disputes and economic recovery. The lessons learned will be used to shape normative guidance for similar crises worldwide.

C. Partnerships, collaborations and lessons learned

16. The work of UN-Habitat in Nigeria is defined by a deep and sustained commitment to partnerships and collaborations. Our operational projects are built on strong relationships with a diverse range of stakeholders.

1. Collaborations and partnerships

17. The memorandum of understanding with the Government of Nigeria provides the overarching framework for all UN-Habitat activities in the country. This national-level partnership is complemented by collaborations with state and local governments, ensuring that the normative guidance of UN-Habitat is integrated directly into national and subnational development agendas.

18. Partnerships with other United Nations entities, such as UNDP and the International Organization for Migration, are central to the work of UN-Habitat, particularly when it comes to addressing complex humanitarian and development challenges. The European Union-funded joint programme for displaced populations (see para. 15 above) and the regional Sahel initiative (see para. 14 above) are prime examples of the “One United Nations” approach, which leverages the complementary strengths of different system entities to achieve more impactful and sustainable outcomes.

19. Partnerships, including with the United Kingdom Foreign, Commonwealth and Development Office, have enabled the development of normative tools, such as the Sustainable Development Goals project assessment tool, which can be used in operational projects in Nigeria and other countries. Engagement with civil society, the private sector and academia – as highlighted by projects ranging from the Sustainable Ibadan Project to the more recent Aba city master plan – ensures that the work of UN-Habitat is participatory, inclusive and grounded in local needs.

2. Lessons learned and replicability

20. The experience of Nigeria offers lessons that can strengthen the normative work of UN-Habitat globally and inform its future operational activities, including through the following aspects:

(a) **Technical expertise combined with local participation:** the successes of the Rapid Urban Sector Profiling for Sustainability methodology and the Aba master plan demonstrate that effective normative frameworks must be developed in a highly participatory manner to ensure local buy-in and ownership;

(b) **Programmatic, not project-based, approach:** the project to improve access to water in Jos showed that a city-wide strategic approach is necessary for large-scale, sustainable impact;

(c) **Partnerships across the humanitarian-development nexus:** projects for displaced populations highlight that sustainable solutions require long-term planning and coordination among diverse partners, moving beyond the humanitarian relief model;

(d) **Normative tools in scaling up efforts:** tools such as the Sustainable Development Goal project assessment tool and Rapid Urban Sector Profiling for Sustainability serve as replicable methodologies for different contexts, ensuring that successful operational projects can be used as models for sustainable urbanization elsewhere.

D. Conclusions regarding updates on the Nigeria country programme

21. The UN-Habitat Nigeria country programme is a strong example of how to effectively link normative and operational activities to achieve significant impact in a middle-income country context. Through foundational policy frameworks, community-level projects and partners, UN-Habitat is contributing to the sustainable urban development of Nigeria. The lessons learned from this work will continue to shape the global strategy of UN-Habitat, strengthening the replicable and mutually reinforcing nature of our work across the world.

III. Updates on the Philippines country programme

22. UN-Habitat started providing support in the Philippines in the 1990s, with the formulation of the *Local Shelter Planning Guidelines*,⁶ implemented in several Philippine cities.⁷ Since the creation of the country programme and the establishment, in 2003, of the country office, UN-Habitat has continuously expanded its work, notably through reconstruction and recovery efforts. In recent years, UN-Habitat support has encompassed climate resilience programmes; the Philippine New Urban Agenda;⁸ localization of the Sustainable Development Goals,⁹ in alignment with the United Nations Sustainable Development Cooperation Framework for the period 2024–2028; the strengthening of urban networks and platforms; and the Philippine Urban Forum 2023.¹⁰

A. UN-Habitat in the Philippines: context and background

23. The Philippines is a South-East Asian archipelagic country comprising 7,641 islands. In 2020, the Philippine population was estimated at 109 million and was projected to reach 114 million by 2025.¹¹

24. In 2020, an estimated 58.9 million Filipinos – or 54 per cent of the country’s population – lived in urban areas. The country ranks second in terms of urban population density among countries in East Asia and the Pacific, while metropolitan Manila is among the 20 largest urban agglomerations in Asia.

25. Alongside an annual urban growth of 2.4 per cent between 2015 and 2020,¹² the urban landscape has undergone visible transformation, characterized by spatial expansion, densification and increasingly complex urban systems.

26. Urbanization has grown in parallel with economic expansion, serving as both a product and a driver of national development. Cities have extended beyond traditional administrative boundaries, forming contiguous urban corridors and economically active clusters.

27. This largely uncoordinated urban expansion has compromised the delivery of essential services, such as waste management, air-quality control and transportation.¹³ Informal settlements have expanded across the metropolis, particularly in environmentally vulnerable locations, such as riverbanks and estuaries, and under bridges. Countrywide spatial development, aimed at improving connectivity, social service delivery and city decongestion, is set by the National Spatial Strategy.

28. Urban localities still face challenges, including solid waste disposal, urban growth management, risks of disaster and extreme vulnerability to climate change,¹⁴ inadequate transportation planning, gaps in infrastructure and fiscal capacities, as well as inadequate access to land tenure and housing.

29. Nationwide, 1.4 million families reside in informal settlements, with substandard housing materials, insecure tenure and inadequate basic services. According to the Philippine Development Plan for the period 2023–2028, the total housing need for the period 2017–2022 was estimated at 6.8 million units. The housing backlog is particularly acute in the social housing segment. The construction and delivery of social housing face persistent bottlenecks, including owing to limited and underutilized financing,¹⁵ lack of available land, and protracted permit and clearance processes. The existing housing stock is also vulnerable to the impacts of natural disasters. These compounding risks

⁶ Philippines, Housing and Urban Development Coordinating Council (2016). Available at <https://www.unhabitat.org/ph/wp-content/uploads/2018/01/Local-Shelter-Planning-Manual-2016-Web-Edition.pdf>.

⁷ UN-Habitat Philippines, “Silay, Butuan, Cagayan de Oro and Iligan cities respond to shelter challenges through their shelter plans”, 28 September 2013.

⁸ Philippines, *Habitat III: The Philippine National Report – A New Urban Agenda* (October 2016). Available at https://unhabitat.org/sites/default/files/documents/2019-05/national-report_philippines.pdf.

⁹ UN-Habitat Philippines, “Surigao City firms up efforts to align initiatives with SDG targets”, 26 July 2024.

¹⁰ For more information, see <https://unhabitat.org/ph/phuf2023/>.

¹¹ Philippine Statistics Authority, “Philippine population is projected to be around 138.67 million by 2055 under scenario 2”, press release, 31 January 2024. Available at <https://psa.gov.ph/statistics/census/projected-population>.

¹² Philippine Statistics Authority, *2020 Census of Population and Housing: Report No. 4 – Urban Population* (June 2022), p. xvi.

¹³ See *Habitat III: The Philippine National Report*, p. 1.

¹⁴ In the 2023 World Risk Index, the Philippines is ranked No. 1, as the country with the highest disaster risk.

¹⁵ The National Housing Authority, the lead agency for housing production, reported an average budget utilization rate of just 61.38 per cent between 2016 and 2022.

highlight the urgent need to reassess housing location criteria, design standards and the integration of open spaces to reduce vulnerability, improve health outcomes and enhance liveability.

30. The Philippine Development Plan serves as the Government's primary development framework. It integrates the 17 Sustainable Development Goals, ensuring that national strategies are aligned with global development commitments. Recognizing that achieving the Goals requires whole-of-government and whole-of-society approaches, the implementation strategies that are articulated in the Philippine Development Plan and in subsequent sectoral plans are operationalized and aligned at the subnational level through regional development plans and comprehensive development plans prepared by local government units. Several Philippine cities are now taking the lead in championing the Goals and have taken bold actions to promote and implement them at the local level. The Philippine Development Plan also integrates climate change considerations, and climate risk data are used to inform development plans and resource management plans.

31. Addressing the multifaceted barriers to equitable access to resources, services, opportunities and social protection – especially for marginalized and vulnerable groups, such as women, young people, older persons, persons with disabilities and migrants – is key to fostering a just urban future. Government-led social safety nets and targeted programmes have played a crucial role in this effort.¹⁶ National inequality has been decreasing slowly over the past two decades;¹⁷ however, employment remains largely vulnerable to crises and shocks.¹⁸

B. Normative and operational activities under the Philippines country programme

1. Post-disaster and post-conflict housing reconstruction, community rebuilding and tenure security

32. UN-Habitat has played a pivotal role in post-disaster housebuilding and in community rebuilding across the Philippines, including in response to Typhoon Haiyan, in 2013,¹⁹ and following the Marawi armed conflict, in 2017,²⁰ with funding from the Government of Japan. These initiatives combined operational recovery with normative policy development and innovative tenure methodologies.

33. In Marawi, housing operations were accompanied by a six-volume publication on thematic areas and processes²¹ and complemented by the application of the Social Tenure Domain Model of the Global Land Tool Network, which is now used by national and local governments as a reference on tenurial rights.²²

34. In the aftermath of Typhoon Haiyan, in 2013, UN-Habitat supported the Tacloban City local government²³ in developing the Tacloban Recovery and Rehabilitation Plan, in which strategies were identified for the spatial development of Tacloban, addressing emergency, recovery and long-term rehabilitation needs. The plan focused on housing people in safer areas, thus requiring city expansion.

¹⁶ Examples include the [Pantawid Pamilyang Pilipino Program](#) (national poverty reduction strategy through health and education), the [JobStart Philippines Program](#) (transitional support for youth from education to employment), the [Tulong Pangkabuhayan para sa Ating Disadvantaged Workers Program](#) (emergency employment for displaced, underemployed and seasonal workers), unconditional cash transfers and a universal healthcare programme.

¹⁷ According to the World Bank, the Philippines national Gini coefficient improved from 47.7 in 2000 to 46.3 in 2009, 40.7 in 2021 and 39.3 in 2023 (World Bank Group, "Gini index – Philippines". Available at <https://data.worldbank.org/indicator/SI.POV.GINI?locations=PH>).

¹⁸ According to the 2018 informal sector survey conducted by the Philippine Statistics Authority, the informal sector employs 38 per cent of the country's working population.

¹⁹ UN-Habitat, "Post Haiyan shelter projects wraps with 660 families getting resilient houses and households strengthened against disaster", 2 July 2015.

²⁰ UN-Habitat Philippines, "Rebuilding Marawi through community-driven shelter and livelihood". Available at <https://unhabitat.org.ph/rebuilding-marawi/>.

²¹ Available at <https://unhabitat.org.ph/knowledge-hub/rebuilding-marawi-vol-1-peoples-process-in-rebuilding-lives/>.

²² UN-Habitat Philippines, "Building government's capacity in participatory community mapping through STDM in post-war Marawi permanent resettlements", 12 August 2021.

²³ UN-Habitat Philippines, "Public launch of #PlanTacloban: Tacloban's proposed recovery and rehabilitation plan", 31 March 2014.

35. Currently, UN-Habitat is leading an innovative housing and livelihood project for the sea-based Sama-Bajau Indigenous community in Surigao City following Typhoon Rai, in 2021. The project, entitled “Supporting blue-green recovery, strengthening resilience and promoting sustainable growth in Philippine cities and communities through nature-based solutions and circular economy”,²⁴ is supported by local government units, the Philippine Department of Human Settlements and Urban Development and donors, led by the Spanish Agency for International Development Cooperation. It features innovative housing and land practices to secure sea-based tenure.

2. Building climate and urban resilience

36. Since 2014, UN-Habitat has been strengthening national and local capacities with regard to vulnerability, adaptation, climate and disaster risk assessments,²⁵ developing tools such as the Provincial Climate Risks Diagnostics tool²⁶ and the Urban Planning and Design for Climate Resilience tool for local governments.²⁷

37. The Provincial Climate Risks Diagnostics tool provides data and analytics for risk-informed planning, decision-making and investment programming. It supports the work of the national Government’s Risk Resiliency Programme, led by the Department of Environment and Natural Resources. Use of the tool was piloted in the Provinces of Bukidnon and Southern Leyte, and the tool was applied in the Provinces of Iloilo²⁸ and Northern Samar to aid in the preparation of their provincial development and physical framework plans. Eight other provinces are currently developing or updating their plans with information from the tool.

38. In support of the country’s National Climate Change Action Plan and its intended nationally determined contributions, the Building Climate Resiliency through Urban Plans and Design project helped to mainstream resilience principles and build national and subnational government capacities to manage urban growth and green recovery. The project supplemented existing planning guidelines and developed knowledge products, such as the Resilient and Green Human Settlements Framework and the Urban Planning and Design for Climate Resilience tool. Implementation in various cities is documented²⁹ and shared through local and international platforms.³⁰

39. Other climate initiatives include a project entitled “Strengthening institutions and empowering localities against disasters and climate change in the Philippines”, known as “SHIELD”, and another entitled “Transformative actions for climate and ecological protection and development”, or “TRANSCEND”. Government partners are members of the projects’ steering committees. The SHIELD project strengthens risk-informed planning and resilience finance across provinces, including the Bangsamoro Autonomous Region in Muslim Mindanao, where UN-Habitat supported the formulation of the Bangsamoro Spatial Development Framework.³¹

40. The TRANSCEND project, which runs for the period 2023–2029 and is funded by the International Climate Initiative through the German Federal Ministry for Economic Affairs and Climate Action, will assist the Government of the Philippines in accelerating the integrated, transparent and accountable implementation of policies on climate change and biodiversity at multiple levels.

²⁴ For more information, see <https://unhabitat.org.ph/rsg-thru-nbsce/>.

²⁵ UN-Habitat Philippines, “UN-Habitat’s vulnerability and adaptation assessment helps shape climate and disaster risk assessments in Tacloban and Guiuan”, 8 September 2014.

²⁶ Developed in partnership with the Philippine Department of Environment and Natural Resources and funded by the World Bank under the “Accelerating climate investment in the Philippines” component of the Risk Resiliency Programme. Available at <https://unhabitat.org.ph/knowledge-hub/short-note-on-recommendations-for-the-use-of-the-provincial-climate-risk-diagnostics-pcrd-in-planning/>.

²⁷ Available at <https://unhabitat.org.ph/knowledge-hub/urban-planning-and-design-for-climate-resilience-a-reference-tool-for-local-governments-and-planning-actors-in-the-philippines/>.

²⁸ UN-Habitat Philippines, “Iloilo Province boosts climate risk analytics in training with UN-Habitat”, 10 August 2023.

²⁹ UN-Habitat Philippines, “Path to climate resiliency: case studies of cities in the Philippines”, knowledge product, 27 June 2022.

³⁰ UN-Habitat Philippines, “PH climate resilient urban plans and designs featured in global conference”, 13 July 2022.

³¹ UN-Habitat Philippines, “Charting a resilient Bangsamoro region: spatial development framework gets BEDC nod, BARMM parliament approval awaits”, 28 June 2024.

3. Improved solid waste management and marine plastic litter reduction

41. The Philippines is among the largest contributors of marine plastic pollution globally, mainly due to inadequate solid waste management. UN-Habitat implemented the Healthy Oceans and Clean Cities Initiative using the UN-Habitat global Waste Wise Cities tool and adapting it to the existing system and context in the Philippines. The project supported six pilot cities – Cagayan de Oro, Calapan, Davao, Legazpi, Manila and Ormoc – in the development of their respective city-level plans of action on marine litter, which are now being implemented. A national guide was developed to support the ongoing localization of the National Plan of Action on Marine Litter in other Philippine cities.³² Other tools were adopted by the Department of Education for integration into the national curriculum.³³ The Government officially commended the UN-Habitat initiative.³⁴

4. Localizing the Sustainable Development Goals and strengthening platforms for collaborative action

42. UN-Habitat has pioneered localization of the Goals in the Philippines, implementing the Sustainable Development Goal localization project under the Agenda 2030 for Sustainable Development Sub-Fund and harnessing the potential of voluntary local reviews. Surigao City enhanced its development trajectory through the preparation of its first voluntary local review. Inspired by the example of its capital city, the Province of Surigao del Norte is now preparing for its provincial voluntary local review, which will be the first in the country. In the Caraga Region (Region 13), the development of provincial voluntary local reviews for its five constituent provinces has officially been endorsed. Under the Localize to Realize programme,³⁵ Indigenous and informal-settler groups are given a platform to engage in inclusive Goal-based planning and programming, tailored to their needs.

43. Lastly, the Government of the Philippines and UN-Habitat successfully organized the 2023 Philippine Urban Forum, attended by more than 1,300 participants. The forum reinvigorated networks and partnerships among urban stakeholders, who shared insights on pressing urban challenges and articulated their statement of support through the Manila Urban Declaration of Commitment and Support to Sustainable and Inclusive Urbanization.

IV. Advancing cooperation with local and regional governments: trends and innovations

44. This section provides an overview of UN-Habitat engagement with local and regional governments, showcasing multiple UN-Habitat normative and operational initiatives. These initiatives are complementary, mutually reinforcing and underpinned by several mandates, including United Nations Habitat Assembly resolution 2/6 on localization of the Sustainable Development Goals.

A. Global context and engagement with local and regional governments

45. The *Sustainable Development Goals Report 2025* presents a concerning outlook, with nearly half of all Goal targets progressing too slowly, 18 per cent regressing and two-thirds of the Goals now at risk of not being achieved.³⁶ With only five years remaining to attain the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, the world faces a global development emergency amid unprecedented pressures on multilateralism.

46. Against this backdrop, the role of local and regional governments has emerged as a critical one. Progress towards the 2030 Agenda cannot be achieved without their leadership in decision-making and implementation. The engagement of local and regional governments in United Nations processes is long-established, yet their role has recently garnered greater recognition

³² Available at <https://unhabitat.org/ph/knowledge-hub/localizing-marine-litter-actions-an-experience-based-guide-for-city-or-municipal-level-localization-of-the-philippines-national-plan-of-action-on-marine-litter/>.

³³ See, for example, <https://unhabitat.org/ph/knowledge-hub/hocci-marine-litter-learning-kit/>.

³⁴ UN-Habitat Philippines, “UN-Habitat recognized as one of DENR’s environmental sustainability champions” 14 February 2025.

³⁵ Funded by the Joint Sustainable Development Goals Fund and implemented jointly by UN-Habitat and the United Nations Entity for Gender Equality and the Empowerment of Women (UN-Women) under the auspices of the Resident Coordinator Office. For more information, see <https://philippines.un.org/en/299335-surigao-city-achieves-breakthroughs-sdg-localization-through-un-implemented-joint-programme>.

³⁶ United Nations (New York, 2025), pp. 2 and 3.

concomitant with the establishment of an increasing number of mechanisms and processes to formally integrate their contributions.

47. UN-Habitat has long-standing expertise within the United Nations system in collaborating with local and regional governments to provide technical support, carry out cutting-edge research, build capacities, strengthen multilevel governance and elevate local voices in global and United Nations-led forums. These efforts remain a priority under the UN-Habitat strategic plan for the period 2026–2029 (HSP/HA.2/13/Rev.1), in which localization of the Goals and participatory multilevel governance are positioned as key means of ensuring universal access to adequate housing, effective land management and equitable urban basic services for all. Cooperation between UN-Habitat and local and regional governments is central to these priorities, such as in the design and implementation of context-specific policies and the delivery of basic services to local communities.

48. Implementation of the Goals by local and regional governments has accelerated, as evidenced by the recent rapid growth in the number of voluntary local reviews and voluntary subnational reviews, which now exceeds 400 in total. These reviews have become key processes for long-term, action-oriented planning, helping to identify gaps, address challenges and propose solutions. Their complementarity with voluntary national reviews has also provided a valuable entry point for strengthening multilevel governance. UN-Habitat has actively supported municipalities in developing voluntary local reviews, promoted their experiences in global and intergovernmental forums and provided platforms for peer-to-peer learning and city-to-city cooperation.³⁷

49. Nonetheless, despite the increased engagement of local and regional governments in implementing the Goals and growing global recognition of their important role, several gaps continue to hinder progress. A persistent data and knowledge gap, particularly the lack of disaggregated and localized data, poses a barrier to understanding the complexity of urban challenges and constrains efforts to monitor and evaluate the effectiveness of policy responses and interventions. The disconnect between national and local policies creates a coherence and decision-making gap, reducing the overall impact of sustainable development efforts. An implementation gap, stemming from limited local capacities and inadequate funding, continues to weaken delivery at both the local and national levels.

50. Bridging these gaps requires the role of local and regional governments to be strengthened. Local governments with the capabilities to invest in capacity-building, institutional efficiency, infrastructure and partnerships with civil society can guarantee a continued, inclusive and quality delivery of services to their users.

B. UN-Habitat innovations for cooperation with local and regional governments

51. UN-Habitat is addressing the above-mentioned gaps through normative and operational initiatives across global, national and local contexts. As detailed below, these initiatives are aimed at fostering the impactful participation of local and regional governments in global processes, strengthening capacities, expanding financing solutions, designing efficient policies and strategies, enhancing contextualized data and delivering transformative local projects.

1. United Nations-wide engagement, advocacy and capacity-building

52. Through the Local2030 coalition, UN-Habitat has supported local and regional government engagement in United Nations processes, advocacy and capacity-building. The coalition serves as the United Nations system-wide platform for the localization of the 2030 Agenda. Permanently co-chaired by UN-Habitat, the coalition includes 14 United Nations entities and five constituencies and is supported by its secretariat, which is based in Bilbao, Spain. As part of its three pillars of work – advocacy, action and monitoring – the coalition has continuously ensured active participation in key global processes, reflecting the commitment of UN-Habitat to integrating localization from the preparatory and negotiation stages to the final outcomes of important decisions and agendas. This approach was demonstrated through the engagement initiative entitled “Road to Seville: The local way” ahead of the Fourth International Conference on Financing for Development, held in June 2025. The initiative mobilized over 1,000 participants in 30 local, national and regional workshops worldwide, organized by more than 20 United Nations and non-United Nations entities. It showcased innovative, locally led financial policies and territorial initiatives for the implementation of the

³⁷ For more information, see the UN-Habitat voluntary local review repository, available at <https://sdglocalization.org/voluntary-local-reviews-page>.

Conference's agenda, illustrating the key role that local and regional governments play in financing for development.

53. The coalition also facilitated the development of the "Bilbao offer", a comprehensive, multilevel, multi-stakeholder capacity-building package designed by an inter-agency task force comprising the Department of Economic and Social Affairs, the Development Coordination Office and Local2030. The package is aimed at building capacities within the United Nations system and beyond, operationalizing localization as an enabler of progress on the Goals on the ground.

54. In addition, the coalition has been collaborating with two inter-agency working groups – the first on localizing the six transitions of the Goals, led by the Department of Economic and Social Affairs, the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations, the International Labour Organization and UN-Habitat; the second on financing the six transitions at the local level, led by the United Nations Children's Fund and UNDP. Both working groups were established in 2024 to leverage the expertise of the entire United Nations system towards producing actionable policy briefs and fostering capacity-building initiatives.

2. Addressing local financing gaps

55. The Local2030 coalition has also facilitated the piloting and scaling up of financing solutions for sustainable development. In April 2025, the Bilbao Local Finance Design Sprint – co-organized by the Joint Sustainable Development Goals Fund – convened United Nations entities, local authorities, national Governments, civil society organizations and private sector entities to co-design local financing solutions for food system transformation. A total of \$24 million is expected to be allocated to support the proposals, which are anticipated to leverage between three and eight times that amount in additional resources.

56. Furthermore, two innovative tools have been developed to channel development finance towards local impact: the "SDG localization marker" and the "Bilbao blueprint". The SDG localization marker was launched in 2024 by the Local2030 coalition and the Joint Sustainable Development Goals Fund, with support from the Government of Spain, to ensure that given projects effectively prioritize localization efforts. It uses criteria such as the engagement of local stakeholders, alignment with local priorities, multilevel governance, the inclusion of local financing mechanisms and capacity-building.

57. The Bilbao blueprint, developed by the coalition, the Joint Sustainable Development Goals Fund and the Basque Government, serves as a strategic and practical tool and is designed to complement the marker. It supports United Nations country teams, governments and stakeholders in integrating subnational financing into sustainable development strategies – from policy design to implementation. It offers practical guidance on the following: (a) identifying local financing needs aligned with the Goals and the six transitions; (b) mobilizing public, private and blended finance for local priorities; (c) strengthening enabling environments through improved governance, regulatory frameworks and capacity-building; and (d) promoting innovative financial instruments such as municipal green bonds and cooperative finance.

58. In addition, UN-Habitat designs and implements city-to-city projects whereby, through joint partnerships and collaboration, a "mentor" city can provide direct financial and knowledge resources to a "mentee" city, thus helping to bridge specific local financial and capacity gaps; UN-Habitat can act as cooperation partner and technical expert. Following this approach, the city of Zurich, Switzerland, is funding a city-to-city cooperation programme for the period 2024–2029 with Freetown, Sierra Leone, to support the sustainable regeneration of the central business district of Freetown, while building knowledge and institutional capacity.

3. Country-level operationalization

59. UN-Habitat is facilitating the translation of national sustainable development efforts into concrete implementation measures and transformative change at the national level. Embedded in the Local2030 coalition and supported by the Italian Ministry of Environment and Energy Security, the Partnership Platform on Localizing the SDGs³⁸ contributes to operationalizing the coalition's principles and tools, including the Bilbao blueprint and the SDG localization marker, by supporting the design of national Goal localization frameworks and the identification of high-impact projects.

³⁸ For more information, see <https://sdglocalization.org/partnership-platform> and <https://www.mase.gov.it/portale/web/guest/partnership-platform-on-localizing-the-sdgs-1>.

60. National Goal localization frameworks help national Governments to create effective multilevel governance systems, anchored in policy coherence and strengthened capacities, thereby transforming national strategies into impactful and systemic changes for local communities. Development of those frameworks is complemented by tailored support for local governments and stakeholders, focusing on data, planning and investment, in alignment with the approach of the Sustainable Development Goals Cities (see paras. 63–67 below). Ultimately, the frameworks lead to the identification and funding of high-impact projects at the local level for local communities.

61. Senegal and Tunisia are countries that are pioneering, testing and advancing the frameworks, in close cooperation with national partner agencies. At the local level, high-impact initiatives are being identified for the towns of Kélibia, Sened and Sejnane, in Tunisia, and for Saint-Louis, Pikine and Ziguinchor, in Senegal. The Senegalese and Tunisian localization frameworks will be anchored in the respective national development frameworks and United Nations Sustainable Development Cooperation Frameworks.

62. In addition, under the umbrella of the global engagement and processes led by the Local2030 coalition, the Partnership Platform offers opportunities for knowledge development, technical exchange and peer learning. During the 2025 high-level political forum on sustainable development, the Platform organized two key events, hosted by Italy, namely its 2025 annual meeting and a high-level event, at which representatives of 15 countries reaffirmed their commitment to better and stronger multilevel governance systems through the Platform.

4. Putting local-level transformations into action

63. UN-Habitat engagement with local and regional governments also occurs in the form of local-level support, including initiatives that facilitate city-to-city cooperation and provide action-oriented data, strategies and results. Through its Sustainable Development Goals Cities (SDG Cities) flagship programme, UN-Habitat offers locally adaptable support for diagnostics, planning and investment packages to support cities to translate global goals into transformative local strategies. As a partner-driven and impact-focused initiative, it has already supported 104 cities in 40 countries.

64. To build on the expertise of this initiative and provide space for continued city-to-city cooperation, UN-Habitat launched the SDG Cities Global Community.³⁹ Through monthly newsletters, online thematic dialogues (e.g. on housing, basic services, etc.) and global conferences, such as the SDG Cities global conference, held in Shanghai, China, in 2023, the SDG Cities Global Community offers peer-learning and partnership-building opportunities.

65. In several countries, including Portugal and Nepal, the successful implementation of the SDG Cities programme at the city level has inspired Governments to scale up similar initiatives in order to integrate key parts of the programme's methodology into nationwide frameworks.

66. The SDG Cities approach is also being applied to sports, in collaboration with the International Olympic Committee, as leverage for sustainable urban development, and to regional governments, in collaboration with Regions4 Sustainable Development.

67. Furthermore, through its Quality of Life Initiative, UN-Habitat offers subnational and city-level support tailored specifically to measuring and enhancing quality of life in cities. Launched in 2023 and funded by Saudi Arabia, the initiative has already had more than 69 cities in 39 countries sign up, and it is steadily expanding to over 100 cities. The initiative, which is unique among UN-Habitat data, innovation and policy offerings, integrates existing frameworks, such as Goal targets, the Global Urban Monitoring Framework and the New Urban Agenda, with local indicators that reflect specific lived experiences and perceptions, through a new people-centred approach. As a scalable framework, quality of life index assessments can be embedded in broader project support initiatives to drive evidence-based policy and investment decisions. For instance, it can be integrated into or aligned with SDG Cities projects and can also be aligned with or lead to the production of action-oriented voluntary local reviews, policy recommendations and project plans.

68. Beyond the above-mentioned initiatives, UN-Habitat cooperation with local and regional governments is central to many other UN-Habitat programmes and projects. For example, the City Resilience Global Programme supports local governments in making urban areas safer and more resilient to shocks, including climate-induced ones. The Cities Investment Facility engages city authorities and private capital owners to source and prepare impactful infrastructure projects for investment. For data-specific support, UN-Habitat provides capacity-building on the application of

³⁹ For more information, see <https://www.sdg-cities.org/stories/articles/sdg-cities-global-community-launch-building-bridges-for-the-sustainable-development-goals>.

data methodologies, including the Global Urban Monitoring Framework,⁴⁰ which offers a comprehensive structure to track progress on Goal 11, the New Urban Agenda and other urban-related targets, ensuring that data are comparable across contexts and responsive to local realities.

C. Conclusions with regard to advancing cooperation with local and regional governments

69. As permanent Co-Chair of the Local2030 coalition and in accordance with the UN-Habitat strategic plan for the period 2026–2029, UN-Habitat remains committed to supporting local and regional governments towards localization of the Goals and better urban futures for all. Building on the initiatives described in the present report and the Sevilla Commitment, adopted by the Fourth International Conference on Financing for Development and endorsed by the General Assembly in resolution 79/323, UN-Habitat will continue its efforts to bridge knowledge, data, policy and implementation gaps.

70. In parallel, in accordance with action 55 (e) of the Pact for the Future, the Secretary-General submitted to the seventy-ninth session of the General Assembly a report on recommendations on how engagement with local and regional authorities could advance the 2030 Agenda, particularly the localization of the Goals (A/79/968). UN-Habitat was entrusted with taking the lead on that report, drawing on the outcomes of the Secretary-General's Advisory Board on Local and Regional Governments.

71. Looking ahead, UN-Habitat is exploring new ways to enhance its support to local and regional governments, notably by leveraging its expertise of decentralized financial cooperation to multiply city-to-city and region-to-region resource mobilization opportunities.

V. Update on urban crisis prevention and response initiatives

A. Progress in normative support

72. UN-Habitat is actively contributing to the humanitarian reset, which is being led by the Under-Secretary-General for Humanitarian Affairs and Emergency Relief Coordinator. The aim is to adjust the humanitarian system to align with available resources and move towards more localized and integrated responses, in line with community priorities, while focusing on acute life-saving. UN-Habitat is in the process of recalibrating its added value to the humanitarian system, including with regard to the use of the settlements-based approach and rapid urban profiling to support area-based coordination. During the Humanitarian Networks and Partnerships Week, in March 2025, UN-Habitat led a session on overcoming systemic barriers to localized, integrated humanitarian interventions.

73. UN-Habitat, together with the International Institute for Environment and Development and the Joint Internal Displacement Profiling Service, provided input to the report of the Special Rapporteur on the human rights of internally displaced persons, prepared for the consideration of the General Assembly at its eightieth session (A/80/212). That input built on the normative and operational work carried out by UN-Habitat in the implementation of the Secretary-General's Action Agenda on Internal Displacement. UN-Habitat also supported the organization of consultations with mayors, jointly with United Cities and Local Governments.

74. In follow-up to the multi-stakeholder pledge on climate-resilient sustainable human settlements for refugees and their hosting communities, co-led by the Government of Ethiopia and UN-Habitat at the Global Refugee Forum, held in December 2023, a collaboration between UN-Habitat, the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees and the World Bank was launched in the margins of the resumed second session of the UN-Habitat Assembly, in May 2025, to support the transformation of refugee camps and sites for internally displaced persons into sustainable human settlements. The collaboration prepares the ground for a technical deep dive into six countries, namely Chad, Ethiopia, Kenya, Mauritania, Mozambique and Somalia, in October 2025.

⁴⁰ Information on UN-Habitat data support is available at <https://data.unhabitat.org/>.

B. Progress in the provision of support to countries experiencing crisis

75. From January to June 2025, UN-Habitat continued to support human settlements affected by conflict and disaster in multiple countries.⁴¹ Conditions in the Gaza Strip still do not allow for a comprehensive report on the status of the development of the efforts to reconstruct the human settlements in the Gaza Strip.

<i>Country</i>	<i>Regional office</i>	<i>Prevention</i>	<i>Conflict response</i>	<i>Natural disaster response</i>	<i>Forced displacement</i>	<i>New activities January–June 2025</i>
Afghanistan	ROAP	X	X	X	X	UN-Habitat supported community-driven projects on shelter, HLP, basic services and climate-resilient infrastructure in high-return areas, with the support of the Japan International Cooperation Agency and the Special Trust Fund for Afghanistan. Transitional shelter assistance continues to be provided in response to rising returnee needs.
Burkina Faso	ROAF	N/A	X	N/A	X	Work focused on the provision of durable solutions for IDPs and host communities and on reinforcing local capacities to respond to displacement crises. Efforts also advanced cross-border territorial investment planning for crisis prevention and response, in particular with regard to Mali and the Niger.
Chad	ROAF	N/A	N/A	N/A	X	In Farchana, with UNHCR funding, UN-Habitat is piloting an integrated urban planning initiative to improve land-use management, basic services, land governance and social cohesion, amid the large-scale refugee influx from the Sudan, with the aim of scaling up the approach to other towns in eastern Chad.
Colombia	ROLAC	N/A	N/A	N/A	X	UN-Habitat supported the inclusion of a strong housing component in the draft national strategy, adopting an area-based approach in seven cities. Solutions are being co-created with communities and local governments. A list of territorial measurement indicators has been developed to support the monitoring of durable solutions.
Ethiopia	ROAF	X	NA	NA	X	In the Qoloji camp, UN-Habitat supports mapping, decongestion and an action plan for IDP integration. Work on the development of public spaces is ongoing. In Somali Regional State and Oromiya Region, durable solutions are being advanced through spatial plans, capacity-building, waste management and HLP rights advocacy.
Guinea-Bissau	ROAF	N/A	X	N/A	N/A	Two Peacebuilding Fund projects have been initiated, focusing on community-level conflict and crisis prevention with regard to access to natural resources in Bafatá and Gabú Regions and the Koliba-Corubal river basin.

⁴¹ Countries including those referred to in the Executive Board document containing briefs on UN-Habitat interventions in specific countries, territories and areas affected by conflict and disaster (HSP/EB.2022/INF.4).

<i>Country</i>	<i>Regional office</i>	<i>Prevention</i>	<i>Conflict response</i>	<i>Natural disaster response</i>	<i>Forced displacement</i>	<i>New activities January–June 2025</i>
Iraq	ROAS	X	X	X	X	Work is ongoing on land legislative reform, the development of an e-cadastre, and a land e-registry to secure tenure for IDPs and returnees. Legal assistance is being provided to IDPs and returnees in submitting compensation claims for damaged or destroyed property. The provision of social housing projects for IDPs and returnees continues.
Lao People's Democratic Republic	ROAP	X	N/A	X	N/A	As the shelter cluster co-lead, UN-Habitat updated the inter-agency contingency plan; carried out a tabletop exercise with OCHA to test the preparedness of the cluster; and carried out a rapid needs assessment in the five provinces most affected by floods following tropical storm Wipha. Under the regional RISE-UP: resilient settlements for the urban poor project, UN-Habitat conducted a multilayered vulnerability assessment to shape city-level adaptation strategies.
Lebanon	ROAS	X	X	X	X	UN-Habitat finalized the standardization of damage assessments and developed a building-level damage assessment. UN-Habitat contributed to the Lebanon Recovery Assessment and developed standard operating procedures on repair and reconstruction.
Mali	ROAF	N/A	X	N/A	X	Cross-border territorial investment planning for crisis prevention and response (with Burkina Faso and the Niger)
Mauritania	ROAF	N/A	N/A	N/A	X	Ongoing discussions with UNHCR and the European Union to secure funding for a joint proposal for a regional spatial plan in Hodh ech Chargui Region to foster refugees and host integration and self-reliance
Mozambique	ROAF	X	X	X	X	Most of the post-Cyclone Idai reconstruction portfolio has been finalized (one initiative affected by the United States Agency for International Development budget cuts). New projects were initiated on land and settlement management in displacement and on conflict prevention and peacebuilding, with support from the Peacebuilding Fund and Sida. Two urban resilience initiatives were started with the support of the Government of Norway.
Myanmar	ROAP	X	X	X	X	After a 7.7 magnitude earthquake hit Myanmar on 28 March 2025, UN-Habitat joined the rapid needs assessment, led damage assessments and provided emergency WASH support through its Water for Life initiative. A longer-term earthquake response plan was launched, with a focus on WASH, shelter, HLP and community recovery.
Nepal	ROAP	X	N/A	X	N/A	A Korean partnership is addressing landlessness in four municipalities through climate-responsive land-use planning, while, with UNDP, UN-Habitat supports early recovery in five earthquake-affected municipalities through community infrastructure and transitional public buildings.

<i>Country</i>	<i>Regional office</i>	<i>Prevention</i>	<i>Conflict response</i>	<i>Natural disaster response</i>	<i>Forced displacement</i>	<i>New activities January–June 2025</i>
Niger	ROAF	N/A	X	N/A	X	Cross-border territorial investment planning for crisis prevention and response (with Mali and Burkina Faso).
Pakistan	ROAP	X	N/A	X	N/A	Started project implementation to promote inclusive and sustainable urban development and social cohesion between Afghan refugees and host communities in five cities in the Khyber Pakhtunkhwa, Balochistan and Sindh Provinces.
State of Palestine	ROAS	N/A	X	N/A	X	In Gaza, UN-Habitat secured clean drinking water for 35,000 IDPs through solar-powered water distillation systems. In collaboration with UNEP, updates were made to the debris calculation using the UNOSAT damage assessment. In March 2025, implementation began of a project on urgent early recovery and resilience-building towards reconstruction in the Gaza Strip, funded by the Government of Japan, aimed at strengthening resilience and laying the foundation for sustainable reconstruction.
Philippines	ROAP	X	X	X	N/A	Strengthened disaster prevention institutions and completed technical assistance for a 26-year spatial development plan for the Bangsamoro Autonomous Region in Muslim Mindanao, integrating security risks and peace objectives. Supported the Government in providing resilient, culturally appropriate housing and sustainable livelihoods for sea-based Sama-Bajau Indigenous families displaced by Typhoon Rai in Surigao City.
Somalia	ROAF	N/A	X	X	X	Pro-poor housing policy, relocation to government land and joint durable solutions integrating settlement planning, tenure security and livelihoods.
South Sudan	ROAF	N/A	N/A	N/A	X	UN-Habitat and UNHCR advanced their partnership on integrated settlement planning. Joint scoping missions were conducted in South Sudan, including in Aweil, Juba, Malakal and Wedweil. Work was focused on the spatial and socioeconomic integration of refugee settlements into host towns, including market planning in Wedweil.
Sri Lanka	ROAP	X	X	X	N/A	Data collection (multilayered vulnerability assessment) addressing climate change, biodiversity degradation and urbanization impacts in target areas.
Sudan	ROAS	X	X	N/A	X	UN-Habitat and UNHCR are conducting a city profiling exercise with local authorities in Port Sudan to assess the impact of IDP influxes on services and develop a recovery plan. UN-Habitat and the Norwegian Refugee Council are co-chairing the HLP sub-working group, addressing IDP-related HLP impacts across the Sudan.

<i>Country</i>	<i>Regional office</i>	<i>Prevention</i>	<i>Conflict response</i>	<i>Natural disaster response</i>	<i>Forced displacement</i>	<i>New activities January–June 2025</i>
Syrian Arab Republic	ROAS	X	X	X	X	UN-Habitat has supported the transitional authority in urban recovery efforts through damage assessments, city profiling, recovery planning, a national housing strategy, housing rehabilitation, municipal service restoration, HLP rights and informal settlement upgrading.
Ukraine	N/A	N/A	X	N/A	X	UN-Habitat is supporting the recovery of Ukraine at policy and local levels, contributing to a national housing strategy and an urban development code and partnering with eight municipalities on urban planning. Collaboration with universities and think tanks is strengthening national expertise in urban planning and design, the economy and governance.
Yemen	ROAS	X	X	N/A	X	HLP Women's Network and Legal Alliance with the Ministry of Justice, financial aid for tenure security, housing rehabilitation, and WASH and transitional shelter, in addition to climate change projects.

Abbreviations: HLP – housing, land and property; IDPs – internally displaced persons; OCHA – Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs; ROAF – Regional Office for Africa; ROLAC – Regional Office for Latin America and the Caribbean; ROAP – Regional Office for Asia and the Pacific; ROAS – Regional Office for Arab States; Sida – Swedish International Development Cooperation Agency; UNDP – United Nations Development Programme; UNEP – United Nations Environment Programme; UNHCR – Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees; UNOSAT – United Nations Satellite Centre; WASH – water, sanitation and hygiene.