



Media accreditation for the thirteenth session of the World Urban Forum now open

Nairobi, 15 January 2026 — The United Nations Human Settlements Programme (UN-Habitat) invites journalists, broadcasters and media professionals to apply for accreditation to cover the thirteenth session of the World Urban Forum (WUF13). The Forum will take place from **17 to 22 May 2026** in Baku, Azerbaijan.

Convened by UN-Habitat and co-organized with the Government of the Republic of Azerbaijan, WUF13 will explore how cities can drive solutions for adequate housing, inclusion and climate resilience. The theme of the thirteenth session is “Housing the world: Safe and resilient cities and communities.”

Location: WUF13 will take place at the **Baku Olympic Stadium**.

What journalists and broadcasters can expect:

- Access to high-profile speakers for interviews and commentary.
- Dedicated media zones for live broadcasts and remote reporting.
- Behind-the-scenes access to critical sessions and discussions.
- Press briefings with national and local governments and UN officials.
- Opportunities to engage with exhibitors of innovative urban solutions.

Accreditation process

All media must be accredited through UN-Habitat’s [registration system](#). Applications submitted by email or post will not be processed.

Accreditation process:

1. Go to the registration portal.
2. Find World Urban Forum 13 (WUF13).
3. If you have an account, log in with your email and password.
4. If you do not have an account, create an account, select “Media” in the partner type.
5. Upload the required documents and submit your application.

All media accreditation applications will be reviewed. Once approved, applicants will receive an acknowledgement letter confirming their media accreditations for WUF13.



Eligibility

Media accreditation is reserved for professional journalists and media personnel (print, photo, radio, TV, film, news agencies, and online media) representing a bona fide media organization legally registered in a UN Member State.

Required documentation:

1. Government-issued photo ID (passport for international media; national ID card or passport for Azerbaijani nationals)
2. Proof of professional status (one of the following):
 - Valid press card, or
 - A letter of assignment (see criteria below)
3. Recent samples of published work (links or PDFs)
4. International media representatives who are accredited in Azerbaijan by the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Republic of Azerbaijan should upload their local press ID card.
5. For freelancers: a letter of assignment from a recognized outlet is required

Letter of assignment criteria:

- On official letterhead of a bona fide media organization.
- Addressed to: Chief of Communications, UN-Habitat, and sent to unhabitat-media@un.org.
- In English or another UN official language.
- Signed by an authorized person (Publisher, Editor-in-Chief, or News Director).
- Specifies: full name(s) of the journalist(s), functional title(s), dates of assignment, and intent to cover WUF13.

Media guidelines

The following media guidelines will apply to the media covering WUF13:

1. WUF13 accreditation is sufficient; no additional accreditation is required to operate within the World Urban Forum venue.
2. All media equipment temporarily imported into Azerbaijan – including radio-electronic devices and broadcast equipment – must be declared through the [E-customs: Electronic Customs Services portal](#). The declaration must be submitted at least 72 hours prior to arrival in the country.
3. Upon arrival in Azerbaijan, the following documents must be presented to the customs officer at the airport:
 - Registration Acknowledgement Letter (media accreditation confirmation)
 - Simplified declaration for passengers

Contact information:



4. Upon departure, the same declaration must be presented to customs officials together with the declared equipment.
5. **Drones are not allowed for entry to Azerbaijan.**
6. Accredited broadcast media need to send a request for the temporary use of radio frequencies to facilitate entrance of radio-electronic devices into the country. Information about procedure will be provided at a later stage.
7. Additionally, check the [information for travelers](#) section on the official website of the State Customs Committee of the Republic of Azerbaijan for detailed import/export procedures and updated regulations.
8. Accredited foreign media attending WUF13 may carry out reporting or filming outside the WUF13 venue only after obtaining clearance from the relevant authorities in Azerbaijan. Request forms must specify the intended topics and filming locations and be submitted to media@wuf13.az **no later than 15 April 2026.**

Filming and photography are generally permitted in public areas such as streets, squares, and other areas. Please be informed that it is the media's responsibility to verify any potential entry fees associated with these locations.

For filming at private properties, the media will need to contact the relevant entities directly to make necessary arrangements. To ensure a smooth filming experience and prevent any potential issues, we strongly recommend verifying all information beforehand.

Media enquiries

For enquiries on media accreditation or interview requests with United Nations and UN-Habitat representatives and speakers, please contact the media team of UN-Habitat: unhabitat-media@un.org

For enquiries or interview requests regarding the host country, please contact WUF13 media team: media@wuf13.az

For enquiries about importing broadcast equipment, entry into the country and filming outside WUF13 venue, please contact: mediaservices@wuf13.az.

For more information and media applications, visit wuf.unhabitat.org/media.

About the World Urban Forum

Established in 2001 by the United Nations, 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 inception,

**MEDIA
ADVISORY**

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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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