



UN-HABITAT

Global Review of SDG 11

"Housing at the Centre of Sustainable Cities and communities"

Ad Hoc Working Group on Programmatic, Budgetary and Administrative Matters
23 September 2026

SDG 11 – KEY MOMENTS

1. **Main segment: SDG 11 Global Review** and Synthesis Report – Presentation and review of global progress on sustainable cities and communities, including housing, urban inequalities and resilience. (9 July)
UN-Habitat
2. **SDG 11 Press Briefing** – Communication of key findings on global urbanization, housing, slums and progress towards SDG 11. (9 July)
3. **Side event on Urban Data for Sustainable Development** – UN-Habitat, CBAS and UN DESA side event on urban data, demographic change and evidence-based urban development. (9 July)
4. **Side event Accelerating SDG 11: Integrated Urban Systems and Human Rights** – Joint side event with UNDRR, OHCHR and UNCRD on housing, mobility, circular solutions and urban resilience. (10 July)

KEY FINDINGS

- **The world was off track in achieving SDG 11**, with overall progress being too slow and uneven relative to the growing needs and demands
- **Progress is lagging** in relation to housing and informal settlements, green space preservation and resilience
- **Progress was observed in some areas** like access to public transport, urban planning and basic services, although gaps in distribution and access remained
- The **global housing crisis lies at the heart** of the challenge of achieving SDG 11, with over 3 billion still lacking adequate housing affecting progress across all the SDG 11 dimensions

The Global Housing Crisis

Target
11.1

🌐 Global Scale

3.0 Billion

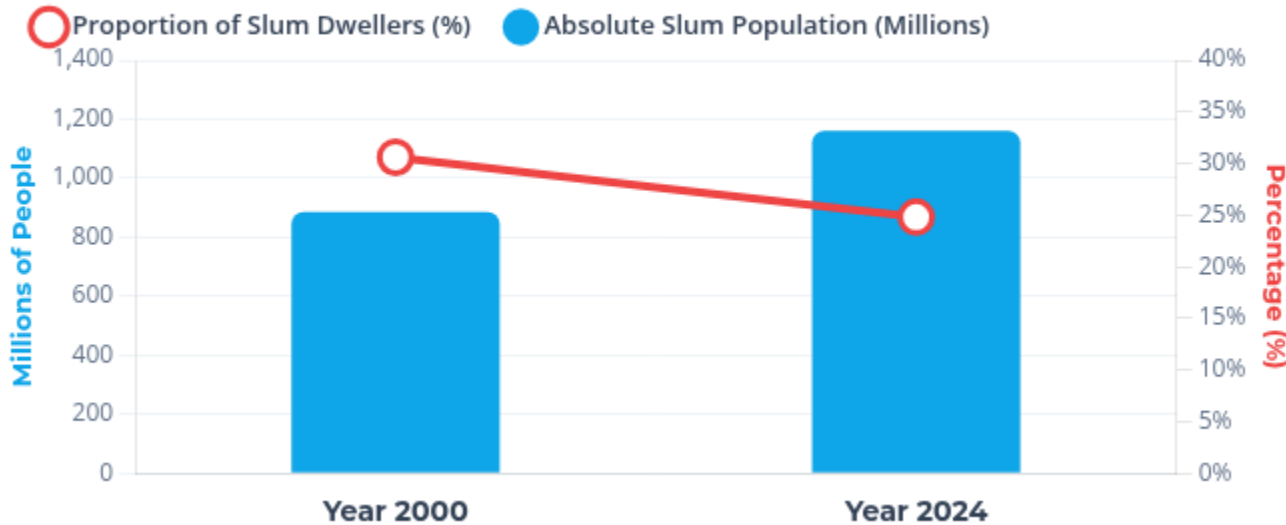
people live in inadequate housing conditions worldwide.

Slum Population by Region

Sub-Saharan Africa	49.4%
Central & Southern Asia	42.6%
N. America & Europe	0.3%

The Slum Paradox (2000 vs 2024)

Declining proportion, but rising absolute numbers

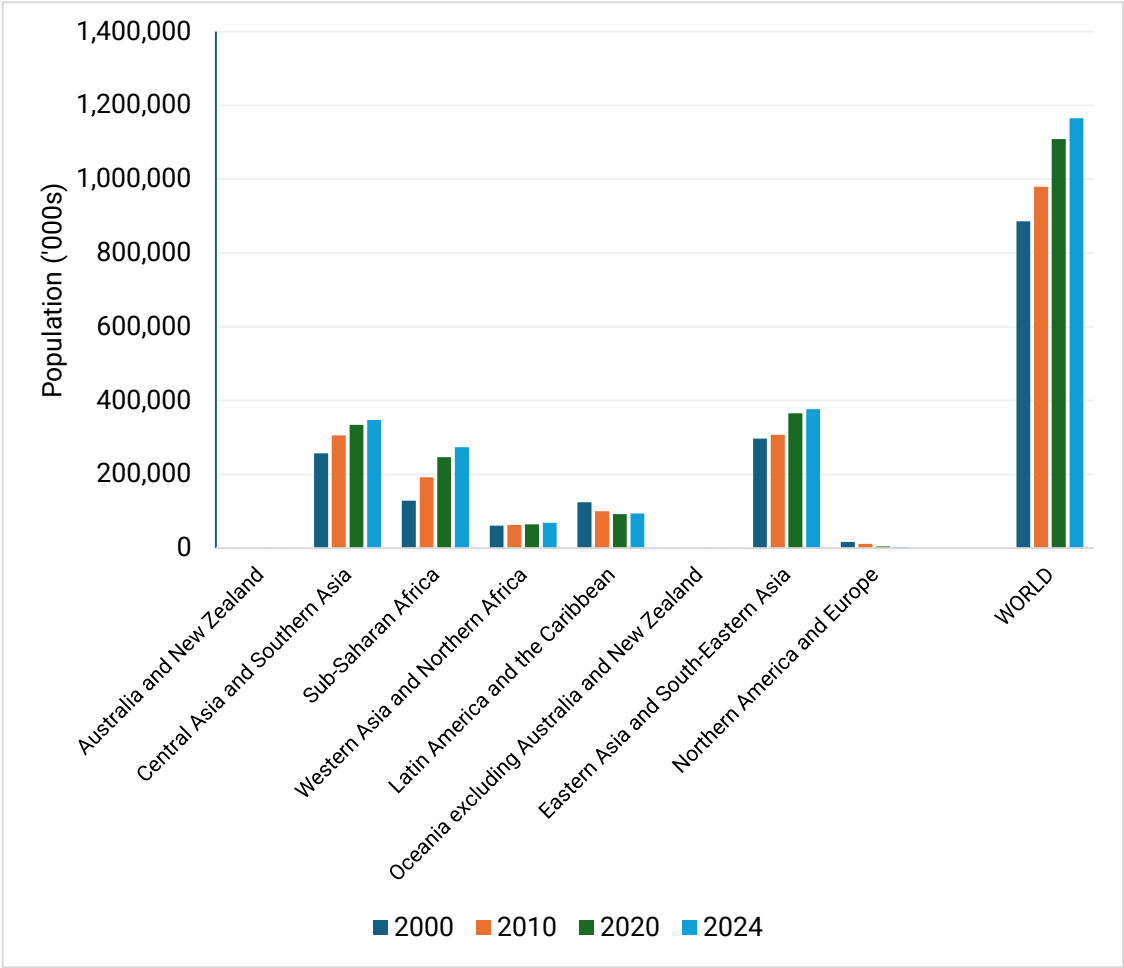
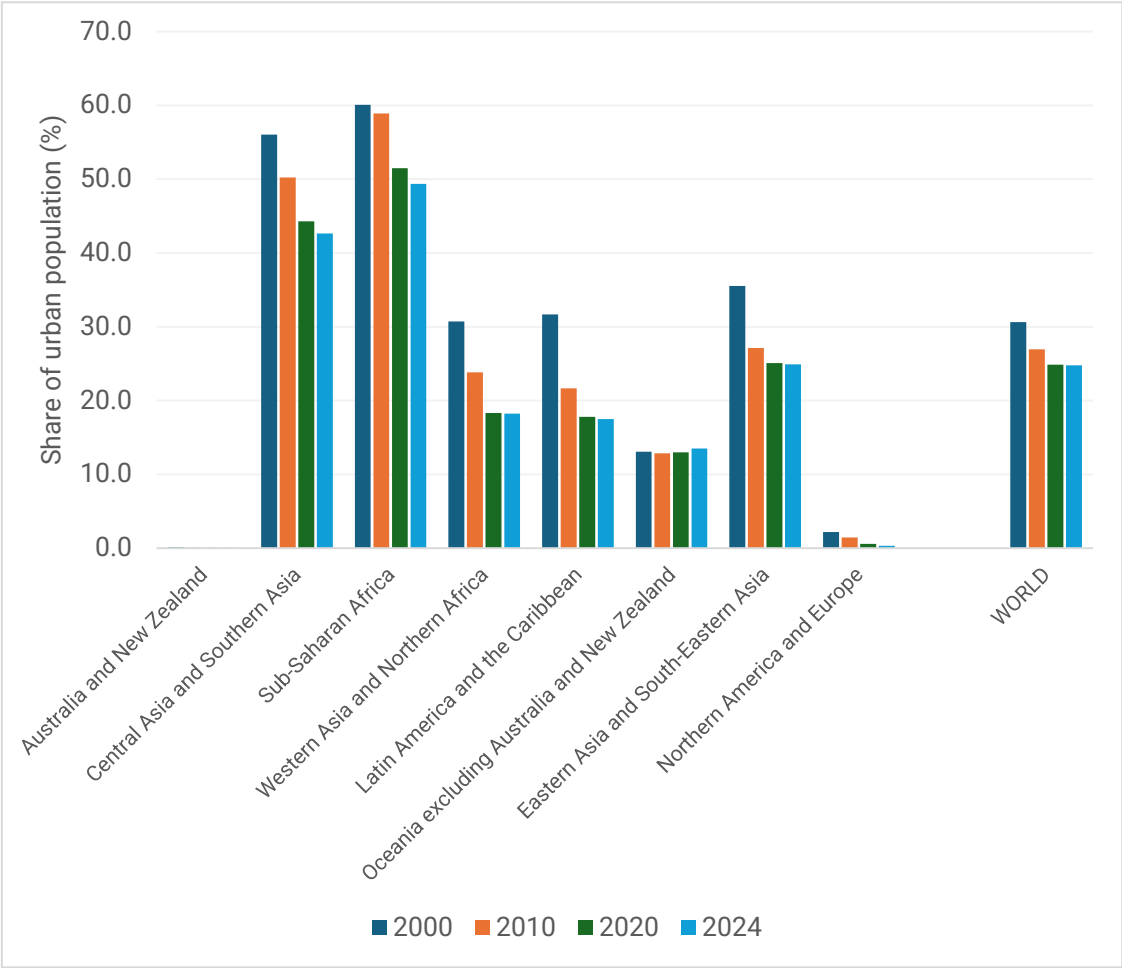


i The Paradox: While the percentage of urban dwellers living in slums has dropped significantly since 2000, rapid urbanization has caused the absolute number of people in slums to grow by over 270 million.

SDG Target 11.1: Slums, informal settlements and adequate housing

Target
11.1

Share of urban population in slums and informal settlements is decreasing, amidst increasing actual slum population

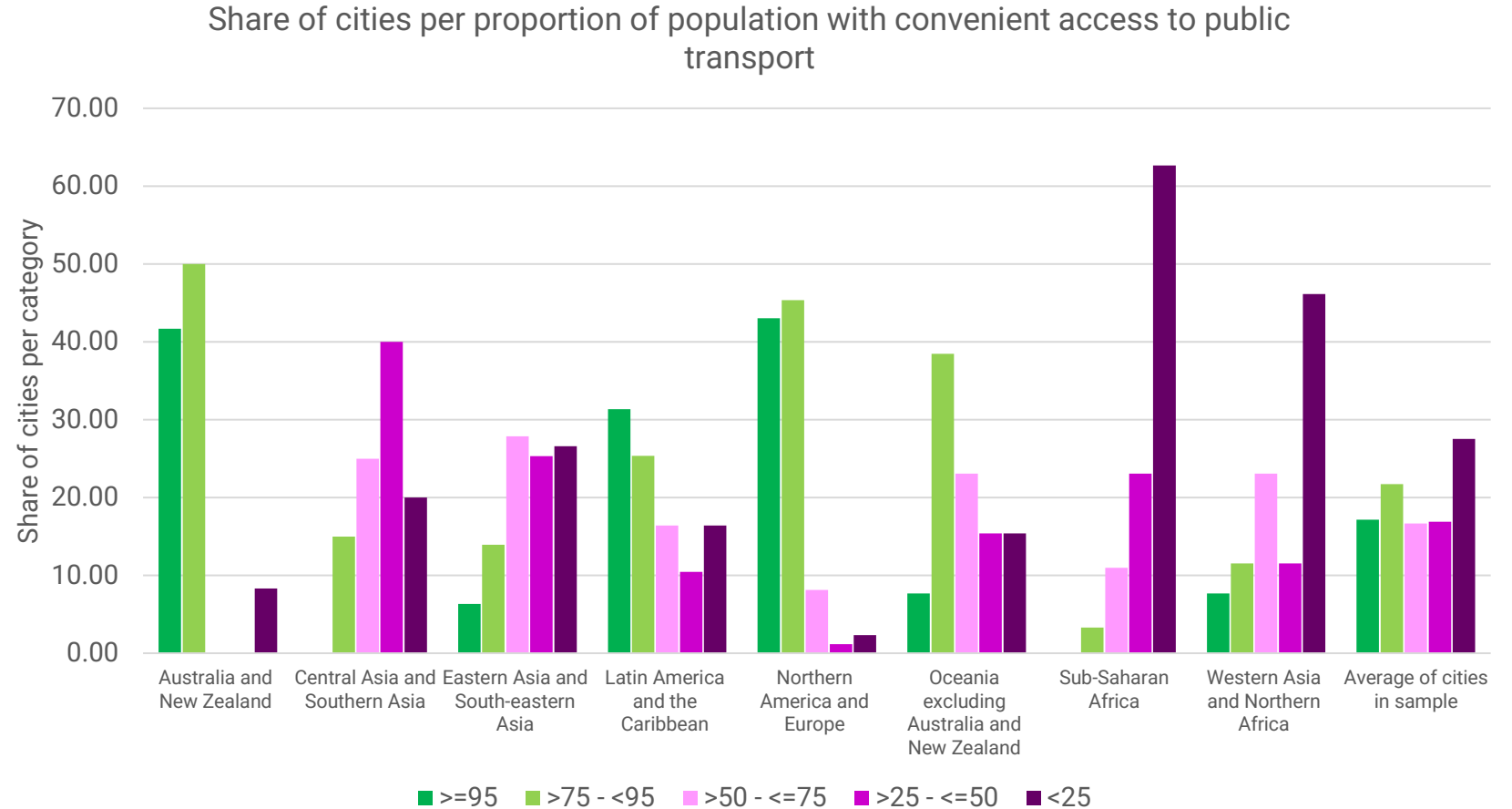


Sub-Saharan Africa and Central and Southern Asia continue to record the highest proportions of urban populations living in slums

SDG Target 11.2: Access to public transport

Target
11.2

- The share of the urban population with convenient access to public transport increased from **53.2% in 2020 to 61.5% in 2025***
- Informal and semi-formal systems dominate in most developing countries
- Low capacity public transport systems (eg buses) account for **78% of access**, calling for more investment in mass transport systems

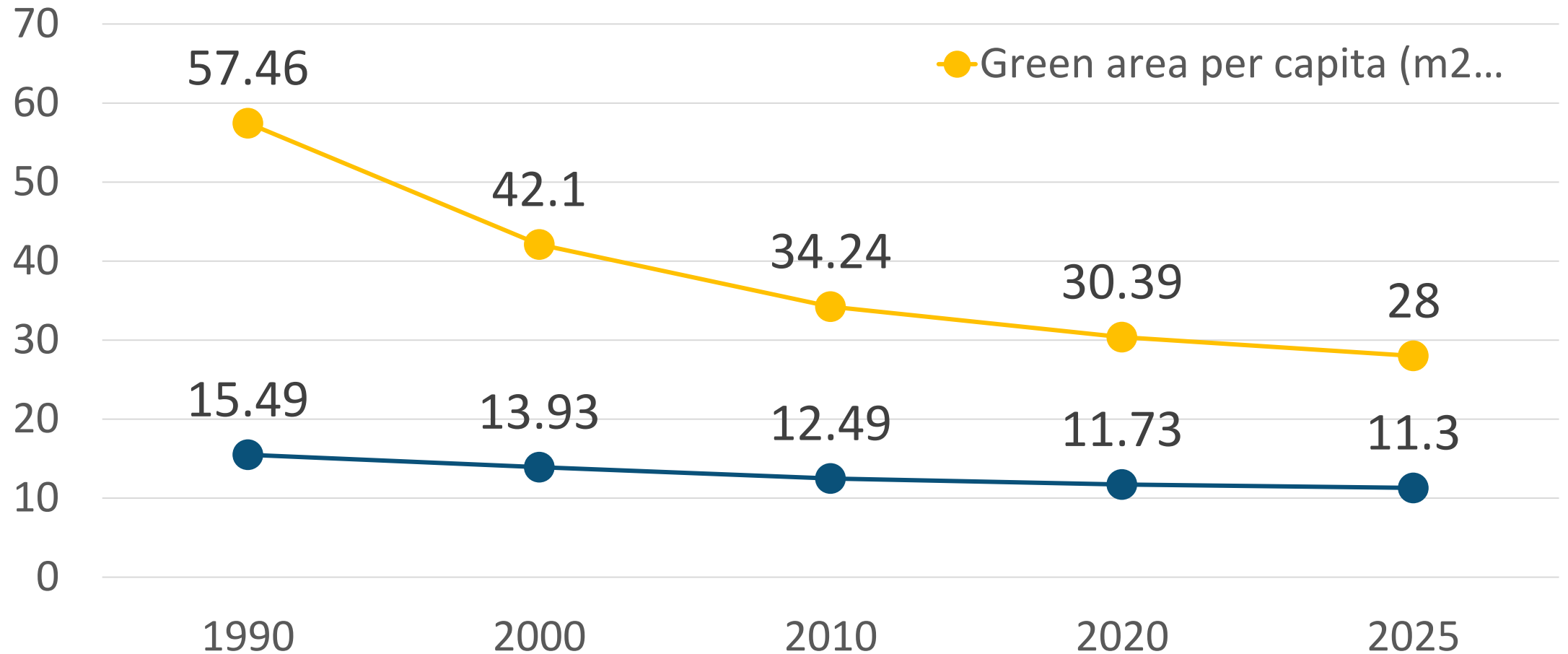


* Based on sample of 414 cities in 126 countries

Access to public transport is highest in high density housing areas (65% for multi-family apartments)

SDG Target 11.7: As cities grow, green areas are shrinking

Target
11.7



* Based on sample of 412 cities in 127 countries

Key recommendations



- 1. Put adequate housing at the centre of SDG 11 implementation**
- 2. Transform informal settlements and slums through participatory and rights-based approaches**
- 3. Guide urban expansion towards compact, connected and inclusive growth**
- 4. Move from disaster response to climate- and risk-informed urban transformation**
- 5. Enable local and regional governments to deliver**
- 6. Treat urban data as implementation infrastructure, not just a reporting requirement**



Thank you!

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