



UN-HABITAT

Induction Seminar for Member States

Agenda item 10: (Introduction of Regional Programmes Division)



Patrick Canagasingham
Director, Regional Programmes Division

UN-HABITAT GLOBAL PRESENCE

UN-Habitat works in
over **100** countries

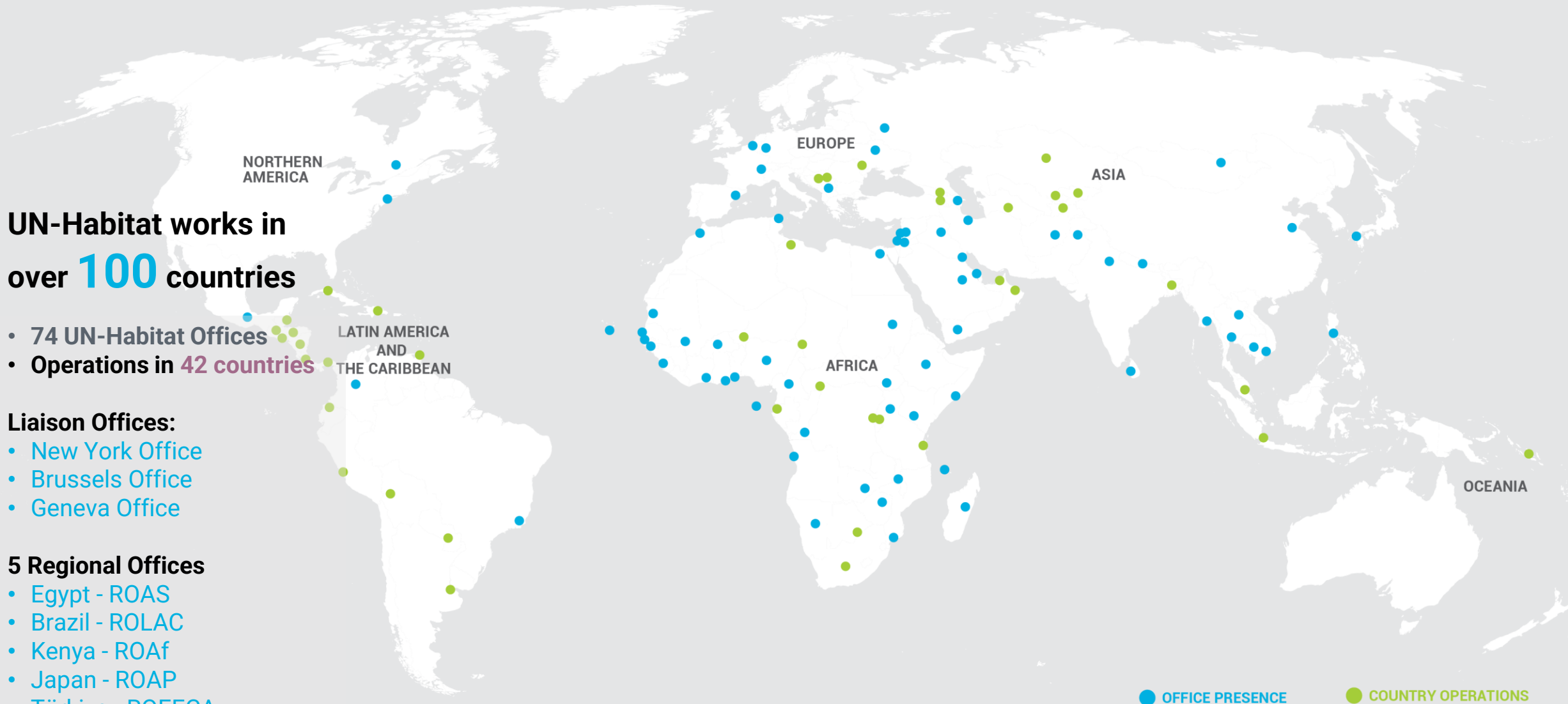
- 74 UN-Habitat Offices
- Operations in **42** countries

Liaison Offices:

- New York Office
- Brussels Office
- Geneva Office

5 Regional Offices

- Egypt - ROAS
- Brazil - ROLAC
- Kenya - ROAf
- Japan - ROAP
- Türkiye - ROEECA



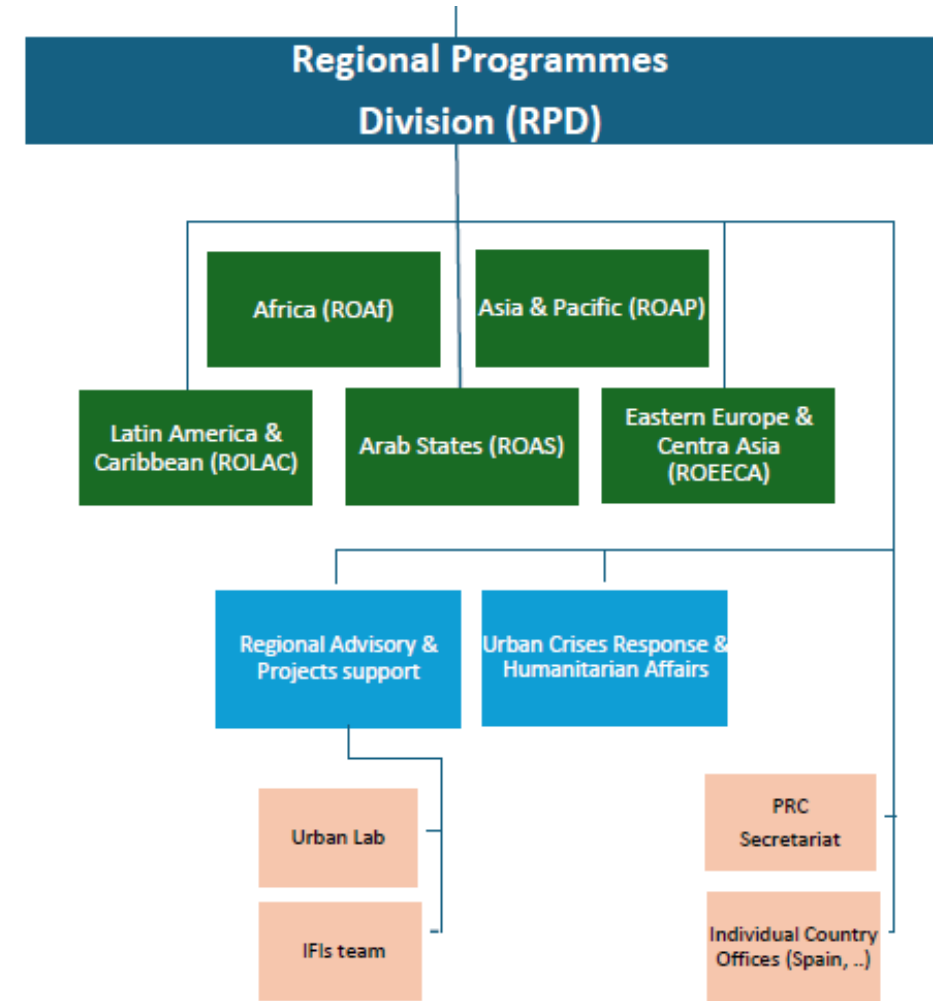
● OFFICE PRESENCE

● COUNTRY OPERATIONS

REGIONAL PROGRAMMES DIVISION

Structure of the Regional Programmes Division (RPD):

- **Five Regional Offices** (Africa, Asia-Pacific, Arab States, Latin America and the Caribbean, Eastern Europe and Central Asia)
- **Country Offices** attached to Regional Offices.
- **RPD Headquarters**, providing advisory, quality assurance, knowledge management, coordination and facilitation functions.



REGIONAL PROGRAMMES DIVISION - PURPOSE

Global ↔ Local

- Translating global priorities & knowledge into country and regional action
- Bringing country experience and emerging priorities back into global policy and normative work

HQ ↔ Regions ↔ Countries

- Connecting expertise, resources and corporate support with regional and country delivery

Normative ↔ Operational

- Applying UN-Habitat's normative tools and knowledge through programmes, policy support and technical assistance

UN-Habitat ↔ UN System

- Positioning urbanization within UN Country Teams, regional mechanisms and wider development and humanitarian processes

RPD enables UN-Habitat to be globally coherent, regionally responsive and locally relevant, acting as the **bridge** between **global strategy** and **country-level delivery**

REGIONAL PROGRAMMES DIVISION – MISSION

RPD Supports Member States to access:

Global expertise and solutions: UN-Habitat's normative tools, data, knowledge and technical expertise adapted to national and local contexts.

Regional knowledge and peer exchange: Facilitating South–South, regional and interregional learning and exchange.

Stronger partnerships and financing: Connecting Member State priorities with development partners, IFIs, the private sector and the wider UN system.

Support across the humanitarian–development–peace continuum: Linking immediate urban crisis response with recovery, resilience and longer-term urban development.

OUR STRATEGIC PLAN 2026-2029

Equitable and inclusive prosperity



Poverty eradication through access to housing, land and services

Preparedness, response, recovery and reconstruction

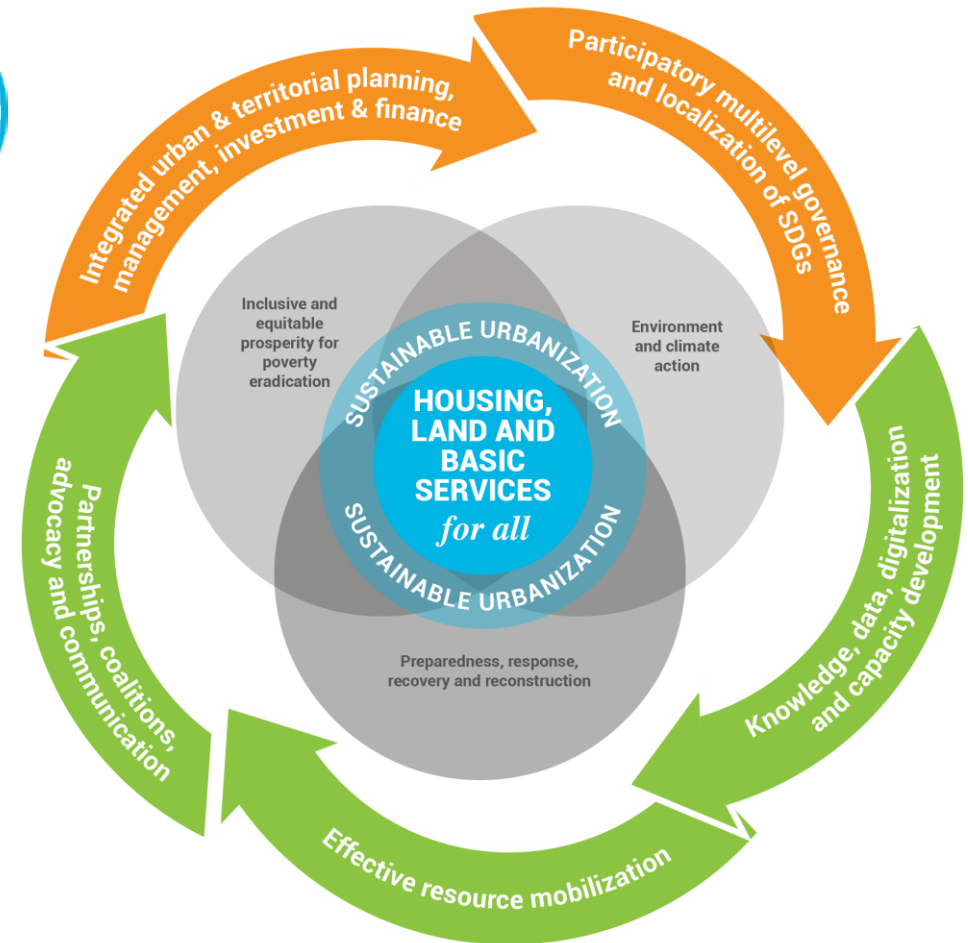


Supporting communities in crisis and rebuilding

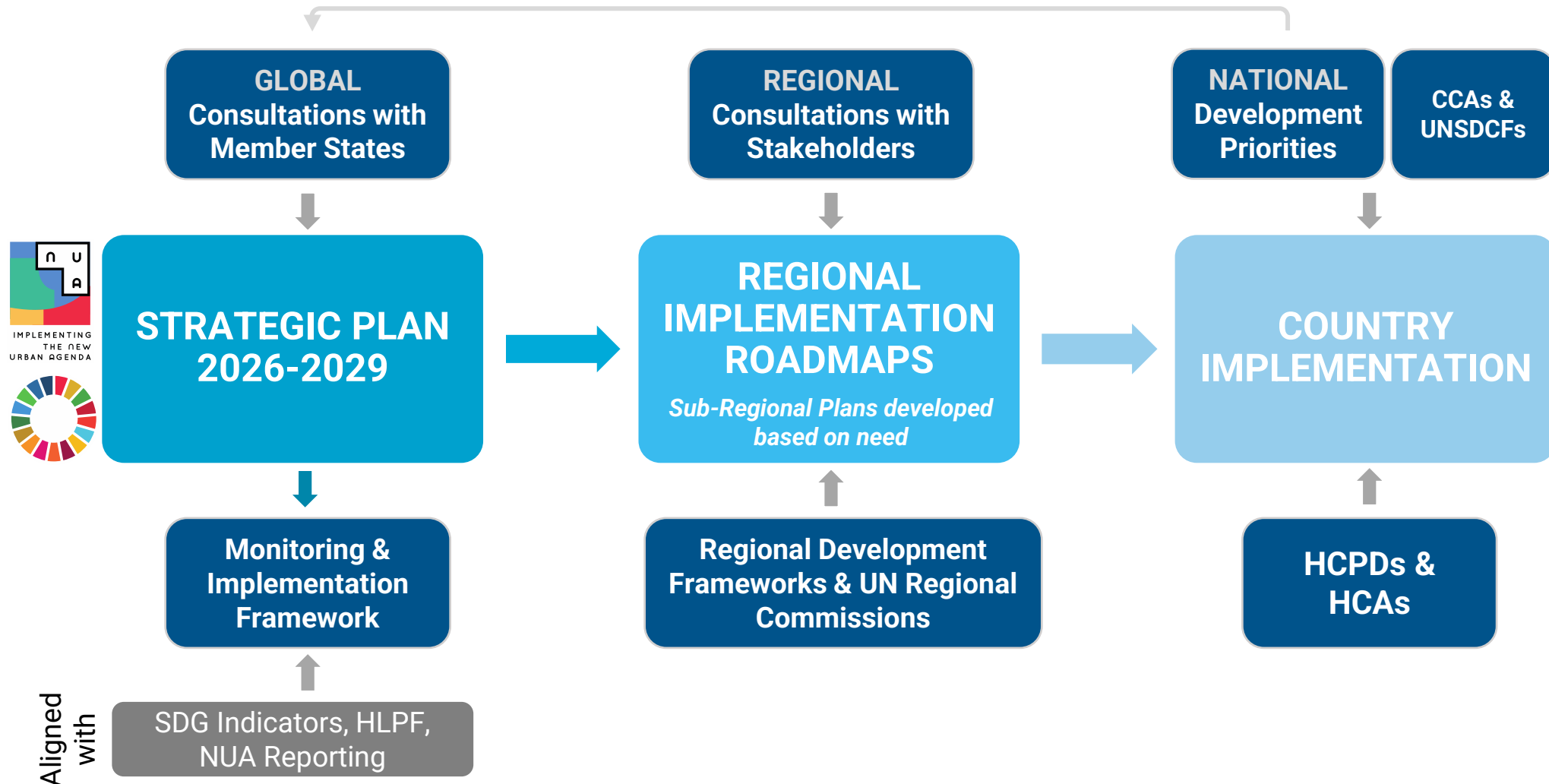
Environment and climate action



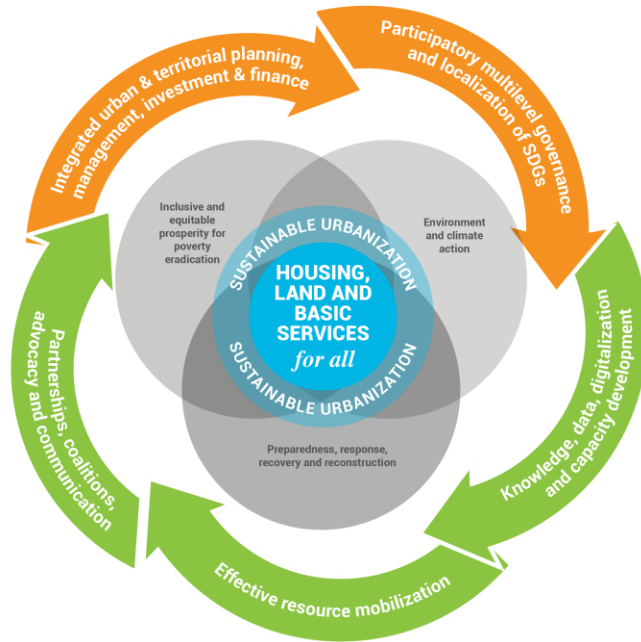
Sustainable, resilient cities and settlements



OPERATIONALIZATION OF SP 2026-2029



OPERATIONALIZATION OF SP 2026-2029



Global strategic direction translated into context-specific priorities, partnerships & delivery pathways.

Region	Regional Priorities
Africa	Transforming informal settlements, scaling adequate housing, climate resilience and durable solutions
Arab States	Housing affordability, informal settlements upgrading, urban resilience in conflict, climate hotspots & resource-efficient cities
Asia-Pacific	Adequate housing, land and basic services, adapted to diverse country contexts and rapid urban transformation
Latin America & Caribbean	Transformation of informal settlements, urban resilience and climate planning, improvement of basic services, durable solutions, and housing policies.
Eastern Europe & Central Asia	Housing, governance, climate resilience, urban recovery and reconstruction, supported by data and SDG localization

IMPLEMENTATION OF SP 2026-2029 - EECA

Eastern Europe and Central Asia

1. Urban governance & local institutions
Strengthening effective, inclusive and multi-level urban governance

2. Affordable, inclusive, and integrated housing & basic services
Addressing housing and service gaps and promoting inclusive cities

3. Climate-resilient & sustainable urban development
Supporting resilient infrastructure and climate action

4. Urban recovery & reconstruction
Supporting integrated, inclusive and resilient recovery in crisis- and post-conflict contexts

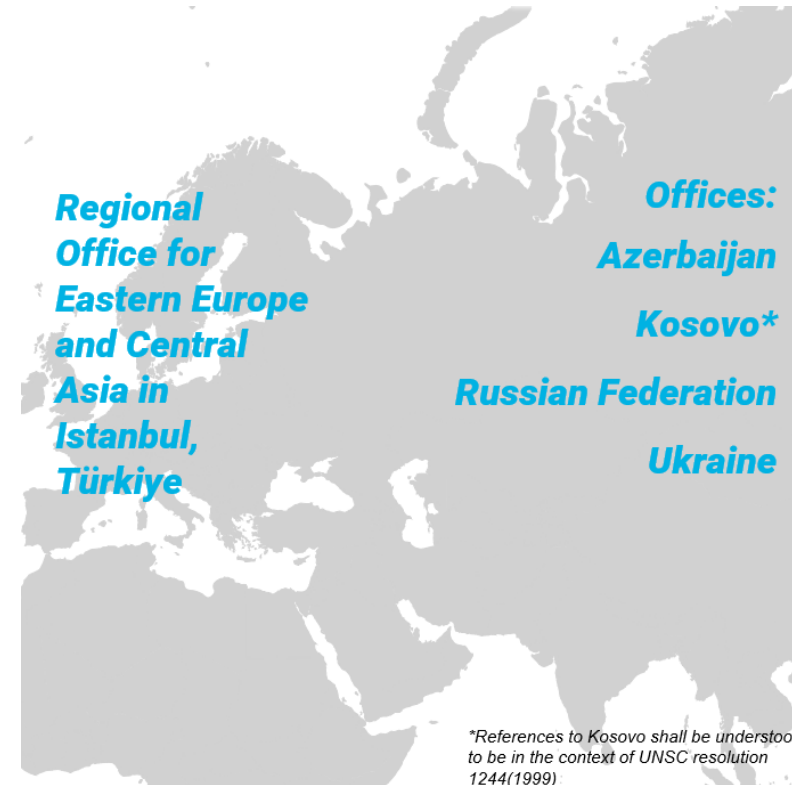
5. SDG localization, data & VLRs – enabling priority
Strengthening urban data, evidence and local implementation of the SDGs

Global Vision
SP 2026-2029

Regional coherence
Common priorities, tools, knowledge, cross learning & partnerships

Country differentiation
Engagement tailored to national priorities, UNSDCFs, urban needs, institutional capacity & operational context

Flexible delivery
Regional / sub-regional/ country-level technical support, programmes, partnerships & resource mobilisation



30 Countries covered
14 Countries with active/recent programme footprint
5 Countries with country programme presence and two in the pipeline (Uzbekistan and Turkmenistan)

IMPLEMENTATION OF SP 2026-2029 – Arab States

Arab States

Strategic Focus

Adequate housing, land and basic services for all, with priority to transforming informal settlements and advancing SDG localization.

Three Impact Areas

- Inclusive prosperity & poverty reduction
- Crisis preparedness, recovery & reconstruction
- Climate & environmental action

Regional Priorities

- Housing affordability
- Informal settlements upgrading
- Urban resilience in conflict & climate hotspots
- Resource-efficient cities

Implementation Pathways in Arab States

1. National Urban Policies & territorial planning
2. Local governance and SDG localization
3. Urban data, digitalization and innovation
4. Partnerships and financing for scale-up

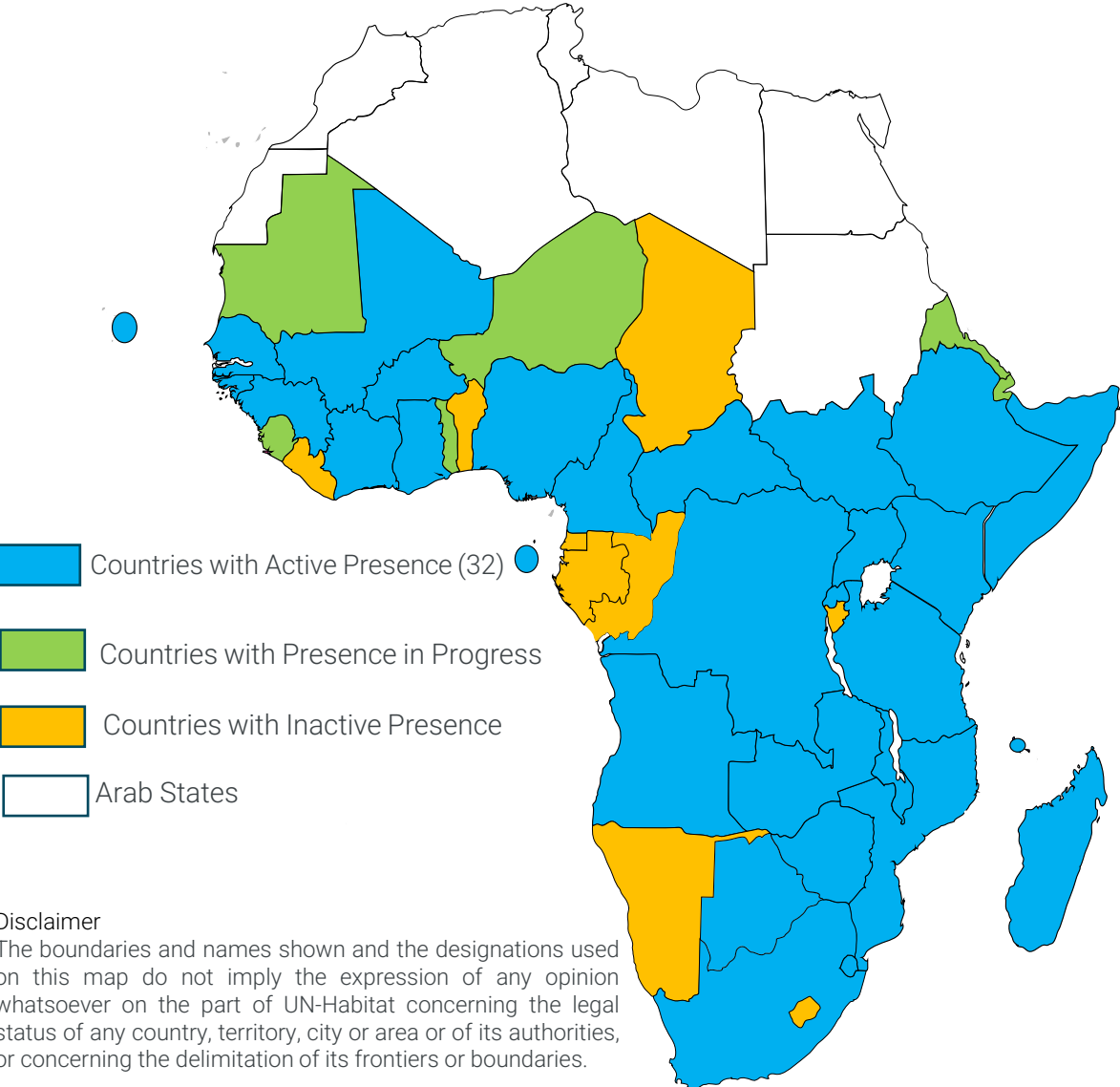
Expected Regional Results by 2029

- Expanded access to adequate housing and basic services
- Stronger municipal institutions and local finance
- Enhanced resilience and recovery in crisis-affected cities
- Accelerated climate action and inclusive urban development



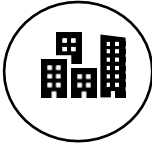
IMPLEMENTATION OF SP 2026-2029 - Africa

The Transformation we are driving in Sub-Saharan Africa



Disclaimer
The boundaries and names shown and the designations used on this map do not imply the expression of any opinion whatsoever on the part of UN-Habitat concerning the legal status of any country, territory, city or area or of its authorities, or concerning the delimitation of its frontiers or boundaries.

↑ Data, Advocacy, Capacity Building, Smart Cities ↓

Priorities		Expected Outcomes by 2029
	Transformation of Informal Settlements	Expected Outcome: Informal settlements are radically transformed into vibrant, inclusive, and resilient neighborhoods with secure land tenure, affordable housing, and universal access to basic services – leaving no community behind.
	Support to the Delivery of Housing Units	Expected Outcome: Affordable, dignified housing is delivered at scale – building inclusive, resilient, and sustainable communities across the region.
	Durable and Integrated Solutions	Expected Outcome: Displaced populations and host communities secure lasting solutions that restore dignity, peace, and social cohesion – breaking the cycle of conflict and fragility for good.
	Climate Actions and Resilience	Expected Outcome: Human settlements are climate-ready – equipped with adaptive housing, future-proof infrastructure, and strong governance systems that protect people and planet from the growing threat of climate shocks..
	Urban Planning and Basic Services	Expected Outcome: Thriving, well-connected neighbourhoods emerge along development corridors and secondary cities – unlocking economic opportunity and spreading prosperity to where it is needed most.

IMPLEMENTATION OF SP 2026-2029 - Africa

Powering delivery through innovation and strategic partnerships



Embedding the urban agenda at the regional Level

- Lead technical support to the **African Union Commission** in the Urban and Housing sector
- Support the delivery of the Africa Urban Forum
- Support the continent Climate agenda i.e The Africa Climate summit, and COP32



Collaboration with the RECs

- Partnering with ECOWAS, EAC, SADC, COMESA, ECCAS, IGAD, and CEN-SAD to integrate and amplify the Strategic Plan's impact across the sub Regions



Maximising UN System Leverage

- Working with the DCO and the RCP at the Regional level
- Working with the UNCTs
- Joint delivery of Projects with UN agencies

IMPLEMENTATION OF SP 2026-2029 – Asia & Pacific

Global Vision



Strategic Focus: Adequate **housing, land** and **basic services**

Three impact areas:

- Equitable and inclusive prosperity for poverty eradication
- Prevention, response, recovery and reconstruction in the context of humanitarian crisis
- Environment and climate action

ROAP covers **42 countries** in the Asia-Pacific region, with **17 offices** including Regional Office in Fukuoka, Japan and Multi County Office in Bangkok, Thailand.

Regional Strategy

Key Thematic Entry Points in Asia Pacific Region



Resilient, risk-informed and climate-sensitive **housing and community for all**



Universal access to resilient, risk-informed and climate-sensitive **basic services and infrastructures**



Urban management transformation through integrated planning, participatory governance and advanced technology



Response to **demographic shifts**: aging, migration, and youth-driven growth



Harmonized co-existence of cities and **nature** and preservation of **cultural diversity**



Countries offices are located in: Afghanistan, Cambodia, China, India, Indonesia, Iran, Laos, Malaysia, Mongolia, Myanmar, Nepal, Pakistan, Philippines, Sri Lanka, Viet Nam.

Projects are also being implemented in Fiji and Solomon Islands.

Country Implementation

- All COs developed the **Country Programme Overview 2026–2029** in May 2026.
- Deliver tailored, country-driven projects aligned with country needs, while reflecting global and regional priorities.



IMPLEMENTATION OF SP 2026-2029 - LAC

Key Entry Point	Expected Outcome by 2029
Impact on poverty reduction through transformation of Informal settlements	Transformed Informal settlements with secure land tenure, affordable housing, and universal access to basic services.
Impact on climate action through urban resilience and climate planning	Resilient human settlements equipped with systems to reduce vulnerability to climate and other shocks.
Impact on crisis prevention and safety through durable solutions and neighborhood transformation	Displaced/returned populations and host communities achieve lasting solutions that restore peace and social cohesion, Neighborhoods improve security and safety
Impact on basic services improvement	Cities and towns are covered with sustainable integrated waste management systems.
Impact on housing policies and urban regeneration	Countries and cities with increased housing solutions and better urban support systems, data, plans, programmes and financial instruments



REGIONAL PROGRAMME DIVISION – 2026-2029 VISION

Strategic Shifts

1. **Stronger UN system integration:** Embedding sustainable urbanization, housing, land and basic services across UN policy, planning and programming, for greater systemic impact.
2. **Stronger country portfolios:** Moving towards more coherent, integrated and sustainable country engagement.
3. **Greater regional connectivity:** Using regional platforms, peer exchange and cross-border approaches to address shared challenges.
4. **A more connected delivery system:** Strengthening the links between HQ, regions and countries – and between normative expertise and operational delivery.

Thank you!



UN-HABITAT



unhabitat.org