BI-ANNUAL
PROGRAMME ACTIVITY REPORT
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62ND REGULAR MEETING OF THE COMMITTEE OF PERMANENT
REPRESENTATIVES TO UNITED NATIONS HUMAN SETTLEMENTS PROGRAMME
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ACRONYMS

ADC Area Development Council
AED Academy for Education Development
AGE Agency on Gender Equality
AGF Anti Governmental Elements
AIDS Acquired Immune Deficiency Syndrome
AKM Association of Kosovo Municipalities
ANC Anti Natal Care
ANDS Afghanistan National Development Strategy
ARI Acute Respiratory Infection
ASF Advocacy Strategy Framework
AUE Afghan University for Education
BCC Behavior Change Communication
BCG Bacillus Calmette Guerin
BDS Business Development Service
BEAMS Basic Education Access Management and Support
BLGD Bureau of Local Government and Development
BMP Beydari Melli Programme
BRAC Building Resources Across Communities
BSSPD Barangay Self-Sufficiency Programme for Development
BTE Breakthrough to English
BTL Breakthrough to Literacy
CAD Canadian Dollar
CAP Community Action Plan
CARE CARE International
CAWSS Central Authority for Water Supply and Sewage
CBOs Community Based Organisations
CCDC Cluster Community Development Council
CCN City Council of Nairobi
CDC Community Development Council
CDF City Development Forum
CDM Clean Development Mechanism
CDP Community Development Plan
CEDAW Convention for the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women
CEDPB Community Empowerment and Development for Peace Building
CEFE Competency Based Economies through Formation of Enterprises
CFP Call for Proposal
CHA Co-ordination of Humanitarian Assistance
CHW Community Health Worker
CHwb Cultural Heritage without Borders
CIDA Canadian International Development Agency
CIDJ Centre d’Information et de Documentation Jeunesse
CIP Capital Investment Project
COP Conference of the Parties
COP Chief of Party
CoWA Companionship of Works Association
CP/SMAP City Profile/Strategic Municipal Action Planning
CRC Convention on the Rights of Child
CRM Coastal Resource Management
CRRIJ Centre Relais- Ressources Information Jeunesse
CRRPD Commission on the Resolution of Real Property Disputes
CS Civil Society
CTA Chief Technical Advisor
CTO Chief Technical Officer
CV Curriculum Vitae
DACAAR Danish Committee for Aid to Afghan Refugees
DC Development Control
DCOP Deputy Chief of Party
DDC District Development Committee
DDPUGC Department of Development, Planning, Urbanism, Geodesy and Cadastre
DENR Department of Environment and Natural Resources
DFID Department for International Development
DILG Department of the Interior and Local Government
DoE Department of Education
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<td>ROs</td>
<td>Regional Offices</td>
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<td>SBA</td>
<td>Skill Birth Attendance</td>
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<td>SCI</td>
<td>Self-governing Community of Interests, also known as BVI</td>
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<td>SCP</td>
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<td>World Urban Forum</td>
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INTRODUCTION

As the current urbanization model is unsustainable in many respects, the pattern of urbanization needs to change in order to better respond to the challenges of our time, to address issues such as inequality, climate change, informality, insecurity, and the unsustainable forms of urban expansion. We therefore look forward to The New Urban Agenda that will set the road map for the future of urbanization; mutually reinforcing the relationship between urbanization and development.

At the 61\textsuperscript{st} session of the CPR held in June 2016, we presented to you a new format of the thematic/country activities’ report (for the biannual period ending December 2015) that was more result focused and easier to read than the previous format, as a demonstration of our attempts to better showcase the work of UN-Habitat and its impact at the country level. We will continue to improve this new format and present it as the regular format of the country activities’ report.

However, 2016 being an important year for UN-Habitat (and the world in general); ready for the New Urban Agenda that will be the outcome of the very important upcoming Habitat III conference to be held in Quito in October 2016; we decided to go memory lane in this submission of the thematic/country activities report for the biannual period ending June 2016, looking at the important evolution of UN-Habitat from its conception, creation to its growth into a programme and also review our work and consolidate our impacts, particularly the contributions made to the achievement of the MDGs. Hence, we present to you today, a special edition thematic/country activities report, that gives a timeline highlight of UN-Habitat’s evolution, the relevant mandate and GA resolutions; we showcase consolidated impacts of our work focusing at this time on two regions: Asia and Pacific and the Arab States, using two country examples per region (Afghanistan and Philippines for Asia and Pacific; Iraq and the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia for the Arab States). We plan to produce similar report for the other three regions (Africa, Europe and Latin American and Caribbean) at a later date.

The report presents some examples of the impacts that UN-Habitat’s partnership with the selected countries have had on the people of the countries; It also gives a brief highlight of the journey, including some testimonials from some of the beneficiaries and stakeholders. These are in no way a full representation of our work but only some examples. The report concludes with brief highlight of our normative contributions in creating and sharing knowledge in the areas of Human Settlement, Sustainable Urbanization and Sustainable Development. The research, data, knowledge, practice and experience of UN-Habitat has facilitated the production of these highly informative and influential publications.
THE MANDATE

The United Nations Human Settlements Programme (UN-Habitat) is the focal point for Human Settlements action and the co-ordination of activities within the United Nations system.

Habitat I

Conceived 1976

Governments began to recognize the magnitude and consequences of housing and human settlements problems - General Assembly resolution A/RES/31/109 of 16 December 1976

Created as a Centre 1977

To serve as a focal point for Human Settlements action and the coordination of activities within United Nations system - General Assembly resolution A/RES/32/112 of 19 December 1977

Habitat II

Received enhanced mandate - 1996

Designated as a focal point for the implementation of the Habitat Agenda - The Habitat Agenda 1996 (A/CONF.165/14) of 7 August 1996

Became a Programme 2002

With strengthened mandate - Transformed into the secretariat of the United Nations Human Settlements Programme (UN-Habitat) as the focal point for Human Settlements and for the coordination of Human Settlements activities within the United Nations system - General Assembly resolution A/RES/56/206 of 26 February 2002

Habitat III

Ready for 2016

The New Urban Agenda that will set the roadmap for the future of urbanization; mutually reinforcing the relationship between urbanization and development - General Assembly resolution A/RES/66/207 of 14 March 2012 and A/RES/67/216 of 20 March 2013
HABITAT I - HABITAT: UNITED NATIONS CONFERENCE ON HUMAN SETTLEMENTS, GENERAL ASSEMBLY RESOLUTION A/RES/31/109 OF 16 DECEMBER 1976

The General Assembly,


Considering that solutions to human settlements problems around the world are urgently required.

..

Noting that Habitat: United Nations Conference on Human Settlements was held at Vancouver from 31 May to 11 June 1976:

a. To stimulate innovation, serve as a means for the exchange of experience and ensure the widest possible dissemination of new ideas and technologies in the field of human settlements.

b. To formulate and make recommendations for an international programme in this field which will assist Governments.

c. To stimulate interest in developing appropriate financial systems and institutions for human settlements among those making financial resources available and those in a position to use such resources, considering that the most appropriate and effective action for dealing with human settlements problems is action at the national level, but that
such action will require assistance and co-operation between and among all States.

3. Takes note of the report of the Conference, including the Vancouver Declaration on Human Settlements, 1976, the recommendations for national action and the resolutions for international co-operation;

7. Requests the Secretary-General to convene regional meetings, as appropriate, within the framework of the regional commissions, to establish guidelines for the co-ordination, within each region, of action to be taken in order to deal with human settlements and to report to the General Assembly on the results of their deliberations no later than at the thirty-second session.

3. Takes note of the report of the Conference, including the Vancouver Declaration on Human Settlements, 1976, the recommendations for national action and the resolutions for international co-operation;

5. Decides that the Centre, under the leadership of its Executive Director, shall be entrusted, inter alia, with the following responsibilities:

a. To ensure the harmonization at the intersecretariat level of human settlements programmes planned and carried out by the United Nations system.

b. To assist the Commission on Human Settlements in co-ordinating human settlements activities in the United Nations system, to keep them under review and to assess their effectiveness.

c. To execute human settlements projects;

d. To provide the focal point for a global exchange of information about human settlements;

e. To provide substantive support to the Commission on Human Settlements;

f. To deal with interregional human settlements matters;

g. To supplement the resources of the regions in formulating and implementing human settlements projects when so required;
h. To promote collaboration with, and involvement of, the world scientific community concerned with human settlements;

i. To establish and maintain a global directory of consultants and advisers to supplement the skills available within the United Nations system and to assist in the recruitment of experts at the global level, including those available in developing countries;

j. To initiate public information activities on human settlements in co-operation with the Office of Public Information of the Secretariat;

k. To promote the further and continued use of audio-visual material relating to human settlements;

l. To carry out the mandate and responsibilities previously assigned by the appropriate legislative bodies to the secretariat units to be absorbed in the central staff;

m. To implement programmes until they are transferred to the regional organizations;

RECEIVED ENHANCED MANDATE - THE HABITAT AGENDA (1996) (A/CONF.165/14, OF 7 AUGUST 1996); CHAPTER IV - GLOBAL PLAN OF ACTION: STRATEGIES FOR IMPLEMENTATION (UNITED NATIONS CONFERENCE ON HUMAN SETTLEMENTS (HABITAT II), ISTANBUL, TURKEY)

E. International Cooperation and Coordination

5. Technical cooperation

207. To face the challenges of a rapidly urbanizing world, there is need to ensure that international, regional, national and local networks facilitate more effectively the exchange and transfer of knowledge and experience on institutional, legal and regulatory frameworks and disseminate best practices on sustainable human settlements in rural and urban areas, including, inter alia, those reflected in the outcome of the Dubai International Conference on Best Practices for Improving the Living Environment, held in November 1995. The United Nations Centre for Human Settlements (Habitat) should, within its mandate, act as a catalyst in the mobilization of technical cooperation. Opportunities for improved dissemination and exchange of ideas on technical cooperation at the national and international levels could be explored.

208. More specifically, the international community should:

(d) Enhance the capabilities of national and local authorities to identify and analyse critical human settlements issues, to formulate and effectively implement policies and programmes in response to them, and to manage efficiently the process of settlements development at the local level, including through the United Nations Centre for Human Settlements (Habitat), within its mandate;

(f) Facilitate the provision of technical, legal and institutional assistance to Governments at the appropriate levels, upon request, in closer cooperation with the capacity-building efforts of relevant organizations of the United Nations system, including through the United Nations Centre for Human Settlements (Habitat), within its mandate and existing resources.
F. Implementation and Follow-up of the Habitat Agenda

3. Implementation at the international level

228. Within its mandate, and considering the necessity for it to focus on well-defined objectives and strategic issues, the United Nations Centre for Human Settlements (Habitat) shall have, inter alia, the following responsibilities:

(a) To monitor, with a view to ensuring the harmonization, at the intersecretariat level, of adequate shelter for all and sustainable human settlements development programmes planned and carried out by the United Nations system;

(b) To assist the Commission on Human Settlements in formulating recommendations for coordinating adequate shelter for all and sustainable human settlements development activities in the United Nations system, to keep them under review and to assess their effectiveness;

(c) To promote, facilitate and execute adequate shelter and human settlements development programmes and projects;

(d) To facilitate the global exchange of information on adequate shelter for all and sustainable human settlements development by, inter alia, exchanging information on best practices and encouraging research activities on sustainable approaches and methods concerning building materials and construction technology;

(e) To deal with interregional issues relating to adequate shelter for all and sustainable human settlements development in full cooperation with the regional commissions as well as the principal financial and technical institutions and other relevant partners at the regional levels;

(f) To supplement regional expertise in formulating and implementing adequate shelter for all and sustainable human settlements development programmes and projects when so required, paying due attention to regional institutions of cooperation;

(g) To promote and consolidate collaboration, within the legal framework of each country, with all partners, including local authorities, and private sector and non-governmental organizations, in the implementation of the Habitat Agenda;

(h) To maintain and update a global directory of consultants and advisers to supplement the skills available within the United Nations system and, where necessary, to assist in the recruitment of experts at the global level, including those belonging to developing countries and countries with economies in transition;

(i) To initiate public information activities on adequate shelter for all and sustainable human settlements development in cooperation with the Department of Public Information of the United Nations Secretariat;

(j) To promote increased use of audiovisual and information technology relating to adequate shelter and sustainable human settlements development;

(k) To carry out any additional responsibilities and functions assigned to it by the General Assembly and the Economic and Social Council;

(l) To continue to execute the Global Strategy for Shelter to the Year 2000, taking into consideration the Habitat Agenda;

(m) To analyse and monitor major trends in urbanization and the impact of policies for urban and rural settlements, to track progress in the implementation of the Habitat Agenda, and to continue its publications programme, including, inter alia, publication of the Global State of Human Settlements report;

(n) To provide assistance in establishing guidelines for national and local monitoring and evaluation of the implementation of the Habitat Agenda through the use of housing and human settlements indicator programmes;
The General Assembly,


Recalling also the Habitat Agenda and the Istanbul Declaration on Human Settlements.

..

Convinced of the need for urgent action to advance the quality of life of all people in cities and other human settlements,

Recalling also its resolution 51/177 of 16 December 1996, in which it, inter alia, designated the United Nations Centre for Human Settlements (Habitat) as a focal point for the implementation of the Habitat Agenda and called for a comprehensive and in-depth assessment of the Centre with a view to its revitalization.

In the light of the review of the mandate of the Commission on Human Settlements, requested in paragraph 224 above, the functions of the United Nations Centre for Human Settlements (Habitat) will also need to be assessed with a view to its revitalization. The Secretary- General is requested to ensure more effective functioning of the Centre by, inter alia, providing sufficient human and financial resources within the regular budget of the United Nations.

232. The Secretary-General is invited to continue to ensure effective functioning of the United Nations Centre for Human Settlements (Habitat) so as to enable it to fully discharge its mandate.
Recalling the Declaration on Cities and Other Human Settlements in the New Millennium, in particular paragraph 67 thereof, in which the Secretary-General was invited to report to the General Assembly at its fifty-sixth session on options for reviewing and strengthening the mandate and status of the Commission on Human Settlements and the status, role and functions of the United Nations Centre for Human Settlements (Habitat), in accordance with the relevant decisions of the General Assembly, the Economic and Social Council and the United Nations Conference on Human Settlements (Habitat II).

Encouraged by the resumption by several Member States of voluntary contributions to the United Nations Habitat and Human Settlements Foundation in response to the work undertaken by the management of the Centre to revitalize the Centre and give it a new impetus to advance the Habitat Agenda.

Taking note of the report of the Secretary-General on options for reviewing and strengthening the mandate and status of the Commission on Human Settlements and the status, role and functions of the United Nations Centre for Human Settlements (Habitat), including their financial implications.

UNITED NATIONS HUMAN SETTLEMENTS PROGRAMME

Decides to transform the Commission on Human Settlements and its secretariat, the United Nations Centre for Human Settlements (Habitat), including the United Nations Habitat and Human Settlements Foundation, with effect from 1 January 2002, into the United Nations Human Settlements Programme, to be known as UN-Habitat, which will have the elements described below:

Secretariat of the Programme

1. Decides to transform, with effect from 1 January 2002, the United Nations Centre for Human Settlements (Habitat) into the secretariat of the United Nations Human Settlements Programme (UN-Habitat), and confirms that the secretariat of the Programme, under the direction of the Executive Director, shall be entrusted with the responsibilities set out in paragraph 228 of the Habitat Agenda and in resolution 32/162. The UN-Habitat secretariat shall service the Governing Council and serve as the focal point for human settlements and for the coordination of human settlements activities within the United Nations system.

2. Also decides, bearing in mind General Assembly resolution 54/249 of 23 December 1999, that the UN-Habitat secretariat shall be headed by an Executive Director at the level of Under-Secretary-General, to be elected by the General Assembly for a term of four years upon nomination by the Secretary-General after consultation with Member States.

3. Affirms that the Urban Forum is a non-legislative technical forum in which experts can exchange views in the years when the Governing Council does not meet, and that the Advisory Committee of Local Authorities is an advisory body to the Executive Director.

4. Decides that the resources for managing the Programme shall comprise the posts and budgetary resources of the Centre, without prejudice to additional regular budget and extrabudgetary resources that may become available.
Recalling its resolution 65/165 of 20 December 2010 and all other previous resolutions on the implementation of the outcome of the United Nations Conference on Human Settlements (Habitat II) and strengthening of the United Nations Human Settlements Programme (UN-Habitat),

Recalling also Economic and Social Council resolution 2011/21 of 27 July 2011 and all other previous resolutions of the Council on human settlements,

Recalling further the goal contained in the United Nations Millennium Declaration 1 and the 2005 World Summit Outcome 2 of achieving a significant improvement in the lives of at least 100 million slum-dwellers by 2020 and the goal contained in the Plan of Implementation of the World Summit on Sustainable Development (“Johannesburg Plan of Implementation”) 3 to halve, by 2015, the proportion of people who lack access to safe drinking water and sanitation,

Recalling the Habitat Agenda, the Declaration on Cities and Other Human Settlements in the New Millennium, the Johannesburg Plan of Implementation and the Monterrey Consensus of the International Conference on Financing for Development,

Expressing concern about the continuing increase in the number of slum-dwellers in the world, despite the attainment of the Millennium Development Goal target of achieving a significant improvement in the lives of at least 100 million slum-dwellers by 2020,

1. Takes note of the reports of the Secretary-General on the coordinated implementation of the Habitat Agenda, on the implementation of the outcome of the United Nations Conference on Human Settlements (Habitat II) and strengthening of the United Nations Human Settlements Programme (UN-Habitat) and on the third United Nations conference on housing and sustainable urban development (Habitat III);

2. Decides to convene in 2016, in line with the bi-decennial cycle (1976, 1996 and 2016), a third United Nations conference on housing and sustainable urban development (Habitat III) to reinvigorate the global commitment to sustainable urbanization that should focus on the implementation of a “New Urban Agenda”, which should build on the Habitat Agenda, the Declaration on Cities and Other Human Settlements in the New Millennium and the relevant internationally agreed development goals, including those contained in the United Nations Millennium Declaration, and the Johannesburg Declaration on Sustainable Development and the Johannesburg Plan of Implementation, and the outcomes of other major United Nations conferences and summits;
5. Decides to consider before the end of 2012 the scope, modalities, format and organization of the third United Nations conference on housing and sustainable urban development (Habitat III), in a most efficient and effective manner;

6. Invites the Secretary-General to appoint the Executive Director of UN-Habitat to serve as Secretary-General of the third United Nations conference on housing and sustainable urban development and to act as focal point on behalf of the United Nations system;

A/RES/67/216

The General Assembly,


Recalling also relevant resolutions of the General Assembly on the implementation of the outcome of the United Nations Conference on Human Settlements (Habitat II) and strengthening of the United Nations Human Settlements Programme (UN-Habitat), as well as relevant decisions and resolutions of the Economic and Social Council on the coordinated implementation of the Habitat Agenda,

Acknowledging that, while significant progress has been made in implementing the Istanbul Declaration on Human Settlements and the twin goals of the Habitat Agenda, challenges remain, such as, inter alia, the continuing increase in the number of slum dwellers in the world, the negative impact of environmental degradation, including climate change, desertification and loss of biodiversity, on human settlements and the need to reduce disaster risks and build resilience to disasters in urban settlements,

Recalling its resolutions 64/207 of 21 December 2009, 65/165 of 20 December 2010 and 66/207 of 22 December 2011, which addressed the convening in 2016 of a follow-up conference to Habitat II, Habitat III,

4. Reaffirms its decision to convene in 2016 a third United Nations conference on housing and sustainable urban development (Habitat III), welcomes the offer of the Government of Turkey to host the conference in Istanbul, and invites participation in the conference at the highest possible level;

5. Welcomes the appointment, by the Secretary-General, of the Executive Director of UN-Habitat to serve as Secretary-General of the conference and to act as focal point on behalf of the United Nations system;

6. Decides that:

a. The objective of the conference will be to secure renewed political commitment for sustainable urban development, assessing accomplishments to date, addressing poverty and identifying and addressing new and emerging challenges, and that the focus of the conference will include, but will not be limited to, the theme “Sustainable urban development: the future of urbanization”, to be discussed and refined during the preparatory process;

b. The conference will result in a concise, focused, forward-looking and action-oriented outcome document, which shall reinvigorate the global commitment to and support for housing and sustainable urban development and the implementation of a “New Urban Agenda”;

c. The conference and its preparatory process should take into account and build upon the principles and gains achieved through the implementation of the Rio Declaration on Environment and Development, Agenda 21, the Programme for the Further Implementation of Agenda 21, the Habitat Agenda, the Declaration on Cities and Other Human Settlements in the New Millennium and the relevant internationally agreed development goals, including those contained in the United Nations Millennium Declaration, the Johannesburg Declaration on Sustainable Development and the Plan of Implementation of the World Summit on Sustainable Development (Johannesburg Plan of Implementation), as well as the outcome document of the United Nations Conference on Sustainable Development, entitled “The future we want”;
PEOPLE-LED DEVELOPMENT

UN-Habitat has been working in partnership with the Government of Afghanistan and with communities across Afghanistan since 1992 without interruption and has remained engaged even during the difficult Taliban period.

WHEN WE ARRIVED

- Country was devastated by war and conflict;
- Communist government was collapsed in 1992 and another conflict/civil war started;
- There has been a need for humanitarian assistance and urban rehabilitation.

SOME OF WHAT WE HAVE BEEN DOING

- UN-Habitat programmes commenced with humanitarian assistance for the victims of the conflict;
- Rehabilitation assistance followed in areas such as: urban basic services (solid waste, water supply, sanitation, shelters), protection measures for drought/sever winter, through community mobilization in urban and rural areas;
- The community-led neighbourhood improvement approach (which led to the establishment of community forum/Community Development Councils (CDCs)) was introduced;
- Interventions were initially mainly on neighbourhood improvement through the community mobilization, focusing on the most vulnerable population such as women, youth, IDPs, population in informal settlements;
- In recent years, our interventions focus on policy support and capacity development of government for Urban Development/Urban Planning.

Examples of recent activities include:

- State of Afghan Cities: Future of Afghan Cities reports which present first ever basic urban information on land use, number of dwelling of all 34 provincial capitals, and analysis on 5 city-region and 28 strategic cities;
Contributed to
UN-HABITAT IN AFGHANISTAN
24 years of partnership
(1992-2016)

Better Living Environment and Improved Quality of Life
- Constructed canal reduced seasonal flooding risks and improved drainage in Kabul
- Improved access to urban basic services, resulting into better living environment and improved health for all residents of target communities
- Over 12,954 sustainable housing units for IDPs and returnees giving them better living environment
- Crime reduced, feeling of safety increased, benefiting 211,489 residents of informal settlements
- Lives saved - protection wall saved the lives of 2,800 people, 760 animals, 8,100 fruit/non-fruit trees and 400,000 m² agricultural land from destruction by floods (Nesrab district)
- Improved sanitation decreased diseases

Over 13 million Afghans

Decreased Child and Maternal Mortality
- 13,785 women’s capacity improved in traditional birth attendance, treatment of malaria, lash mania and diarrhoea (almost 90% of child birth in Afghanistan take place at home)
- Increase in number of children registered at birth and immunized
- Mothers have started initiating breastfeeding within one hour of birth, practice exclusive breastfeeding during the first six months, and introduce complementary feeding at six months of the baby’s age
- Families and caregivers are better informed on how to take care of infants, recognize danger signs in pregnancy, recognize signs of ARI and seek timely referral

Over 32,000 Families; 200 Communities

Liberated and Empowered
- Increased access to education (11 schools constructed with basic infrastructure)
- Increased enrolment of children in schools especially girls
- 8,711 (of which 4,284 are female) trained IDPs and returnees aged 10 and over granted 3rd grade equivalent certificates from Ministry of Education giving them a source of livelihood for the future
- Number of school student attendance (particularly girls) increased in target communities from 800 to 1500
- Literacy for 738,000 rural Afghans (over 40% women)
- Over 23,400 women received training in various skills that improved their livelihood
- 2 women parks in two cities are constructed as first women park in the city providing women with secured places to socialize

Over 3.9 million people

Achieving Sustainable Urbanization
- Rural Housing Policy of Government of Afghanistan 2004
- 4,000 Community Development Councils established in 23 provinces
- Over 70,000 properties registered resulted in 17% increase in property tax revenue
- Improved capacity of over 2,000 local authorities’ staff in governance, sustainable urban planning and service delivery benefiting residents of 9 target municipalities
- Increased tenure security for residents of informal settlements
- National Youth and Literacy Policy

Over 7.5 million

Economic Prosperity and Improved Livelihood
- 786,284 person/day (257,999 skilled and 474,819 unskilled) employment created (55% women)
- 678,159 Afghans secured consistent paid employment
- Average monthly income increased from 350AFN to 1,772 AFN
- 148,000 household received access to loan, improving their livelihood and that of their immediate and extended families
- Unemployment rate in target location decreased from 46.9% to 26.7%

Over 5.2 million people

Contributing to
UNITED NATIONS MILLENNIUM DEVELOPMENT GOALS

Contributed to
SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT GOALS
- Support of national IDP policy development for durable solution in cooperation with UNHCR/IOM/others;
- Support of safer city planning and development;
- Property registration (enhancement of tenure security in informal settlements) and land tax collection with urban public service delivery support;
- Support of National Policy for “Urban National Priority Programme” reflecting the New Urban Agenda;

EXAMPLES OF OUTPUTS FROM OUR INTERVENTIONS (PROJECTS/PROGRAMMES)

- National Youth and Literacy Policy;
- Rural Housing Policy of Government of Afghanistan;
- Presidential decree recognizing Community Forums and CDCs as legal and local government structures for rural areas (CDCs are formalized by by-law);
- New regulation on Land Occupancy Certification for informal settlements to be issued;
- 4,000 Community Development Councils established in 23 provinces;
- Informal Settlement Upgrading policy;
- Urban Basic Services and Infrastructure: over 428 km of road, 432 km of drainage, 459 culverts, 81,453 pre-cast slabs; over 11 schools constructed; over 4 Health centres; over 3 community halls; 2 women parks; 16km protection walls, 53,460m foot path, 1.3km canal, over 10,000 water connection; over 40km water system;
- Over 12,954 sustainable housing units for IDPs and returnees.
EXAMPLES OF OUTCOMES OF OUR SUPPORT

- Increased socio-economic stability in target cities by meeting the urgent needs of the most vulnerable urban households;
- Improved data and monitoring of urbanization to guide policy and planning in all provincial capitals, 5 major city-region and 28 strategic districts;
- Through community mobilization, “People's Process”, the entire population of Afghanistan is able to organize themselves to resolve the issues that affect them on daily basis: social, environmental, access or economic issues, thus increasing self-reliance of the people;
- Increased community ownership, local capacities and skills for long-term transformation (increased sustainability of the implemented sub-projects) which is reflected in the communities’ contribution of 37% of total sub-project cost in cash and in kind;
- Enhanced trusts within the communities and re-built social capital;
- Strengthened community-government and inter governmental relationship and trust;
- Improved governance and management capacity of local authorities;
- Increased and improved service delivery;
- Communities’ mind-set changed from ‘government is responsible’ to ‘everyone is responsible’;
- Improved capacity of communities to deal with health care issues, and better awareness on the importance of immunization;
- Improved security of tenure to people living on the margins of Afghan urban society;
- Local youth council established as a legal youth institutions at local level, resulting in improved level of youth participation in governance and socio-political processes;
- Better planning of the informal settlements applying the principles of sustainable urban planning;
- Improved capacity of communities to govern with over 100,000 community members trained (48% are women);
- Civil society transformed into an active public force; a bridge between the government and the people;
- Literacy for 738,000 rural Afghans (over 40% women);
- Constructed canal reduced seasonal flooding risks and improved drainage for the city;
- Village boundary protection walls constructed; restored peace;
• Historical hostility of 13 years between communities ended;
• 58 community banks formed and commenced lending from own savings;
• Improved access to urban basic services, resulting into better living environment and improved health;
• Greater recognition of informal settlement at local and national level;
• Over 70,000 properties registered resulted in 17% increase in property tax revenue;
• Improved livelihood for over 23,400 women (the women utilized various skills acquired);
• Improved capacity of over 2,000 local authority staff in governance, sustainable urban planning and service delivery;
• 13,785 women’s capacity improved in traditional birth attendance, treatment of malaria, lash mania and diarrhoea, benefiting their entire communities;
• 786,284 person/day (257,999 skilled and 474,819 unskilled) employment created (55% women).

EXAMPLES OF IMPACTS ON THE LIVES OF THE PEOPLE

• Improved urban livelihood, resulting into better life for the people;
• Girls are able (allowed) to go to school because of improved road safety, improved sanitation with cleaner environments (because of drainage system), and reduction in transportation fee;
• Increased tenure security and improved livelihood in informal settlement;
• CDCs are officially registered to Municipality, thus empowered;
• Improved level of education and confidence, increased access to school for children;
• Improved sanitation decreased diseases;
• Child mortality decreased and maternal health improved;
• Increased enrolment of children in schools especially girls;
• Crime reduced, feeling of safety increased;
• 678,159 Afghans secured consistent paid employment, improving their livelihood;
• Average monthly income increased from 350AFN to 1,172 AFN;

• Lives saved – protection wall saved the lives of 2,800 people, 760 animals, 8,000 fruit/non-fruit trees and 400,000 m² agricultural land from destruction by floods (Nejirab district);

• 148,000 household received access to loan, improving their livelihood and that of their families;

• Increase in number of children registered and immunized, decreasing child mortality;

• 94% of trained learners (8711 from 9,200 of which 4,284 are girls) ages 10 and over (IDPs and returnees’ children) granted 3rd grade equivalent certificate by the Afghan Ministry of Education (3,100 already applied their skills) giving them a source of livelihood and a future;

• Number of school student attendance (particularly girls) increased in target communities from 800 to 1500;

• Unemployment rate in target location decreased from 46.9% to 26.7%.

UN-HABITAT’S LEGACY

• National Solidarity Programme (NSP), a national flagship programme that covered all rural areas in Afghanistan was designed by UN-Habitat and developed in 2003 based on UN-Habitat success of “people’s process”. The NSP will end in Sep 2016 and the next phase will be expanded to urban sector (Citizens’ Charter) by the government of Afghanistan;

• Citizens’ Charter National Priority Programme (CCNPP): based on the success of UN-Habitat programmes in community-led neighbourhood development, the Government will launch CCNPP as a national programme in 2016. UN-Habitat is now assisting Government to develop USP guideline/manuals to start the programme;

• Urban National Priority Programme (U-NPP): UN-Habitat has supported the government to develop U-NPP which incorporated the New Urban Agenda. U-NPP will be presented in Brussels Conference on Afghanistan in October 2016.
WHO WE WORK WITH (OUR PARTNERS)

Urban and rural communities (including women, youth, IDP communities, communities in informal settlements), Government of Afghanistan (municipal, provincial, and central governments), NGOs, donors, UN Agencies, Funds and Programmes.

WHO ARE/WERE THE DONORS?

- European Union (including ECHO)
- Government of Afghanistan (Afghan Reconstruction Trust Fund)
- Government of Australia
- Government of Canada (CIDA)
- Government of Ireland
- Government of Italy
- Government of Japan (including JICA)
- Government of Netherland
- Government of Switzerland (SDC)
- Government of UK (including DFID)
- Government of USA (USAID)
- World Bank
TESTIMONIALS FROM THE BENEFICIARIES

“My name is Anar Gula. My husband is blind and we have eight small children. I was working all day long to make just a little bit of money by sweeping houses, washing clothes, and baking bread as I do not have any special skills. When UN-Habitat started the tailoring project in our Community Forum, I was luckily selected as one of the trainees. As trainers were very helpful, I could learn basic skills such as how to use a sewing machine to produce bags and children’s clothes. During the training, I could not work in full time. But the project gave me $50/month so that I could continue to take trainings. Now, the project is completed and I received a sewing machine! I am working at home and making simple clothes and bags and selling them at bazaar. Thanks UN-Habitat and Japanese people for giving me hope and the great opportunity to acquire sewing skills. I will not forget your kindness. Now I have more confidence that I can feed my family. I will keep working with other women and make our lives better. I hope similar activities will continue in the future, too. With best Regards’

“Thanks to Japanese government and Kabul Municipality for initiating KSP” said a retired 65 years old man who was unable to walk due to having Diabetes sickness and was advised by his physician to walk regularly every day as an exercise but he couldn’t because of rough and dusty streets in his surroundings. By implementation of KSP, the streets are concreted with drainage system and he highly appreciated the programme. He said “KSP made be able to walk in a better living environment”.

“I am Ali Ahamd, a resident of Chahar Kabotar Khan Udwan village, Guzarah, Herat province. Prior to the implementation of the PACCS project, there were many jobless young men and women in our village who were suffering from lack of job opportunities and were facing economic challenges. Crimes such as robbery and kidnapping and joining Taliban, had been increasing simply because of lack of job opportunities and illiteracy in our village. But now, after this PACCS project, most of the jobless men and women found jobs and are busy with their work. As a result, their economic conditions have been much improved and the criminal rate has decreased. I was one of those jobless people but now I found my favorite job which is TV repairing. After having worked as an apprentice for five months, I borrowed 12,500 Afs from the Community Bank in order to purchase repairing tools and to open my own TV repairing workshop. Now, I earn 300 to 400 Afs per day, my family economic condition has considerably improved and we are living a good life nowadays. Confidently I work and support my family with sufficient income. I would like to thank the Government of Japan for its funding support and UN-Habitat for its successful implementation as well as facilitation of the project. We are hoping to have such projects in the future again for more people.”
“Women have freedom now, the freedom of speech, freedom to participate.”

Agela Parsa, Female Community Development council Member in Bamyan, town in Afghanistan.

“The people came to light from the darkness, so it has definitely brought unity, as they learn to build the country.”

Mohammad Shaafi, Head of Mazar-e-sharif, on the purchase of new electric gauges courtesy of the National Solidarity Programme.

“The important thing is that, it has brought an overall solidarity among the people. It has had a very positive impact on our health, sanitation and many other social issues.”

Mohammad Samady, Head of neighborhood Development Council in Kabul, Afghanistan.

“Our area is very remote, accessible transport not available for patients. But since the bridge has been built, transportation and communication has improved.”

Marzia Sadat, Secretary to the Community Development Council, Band-e-Amir.

“The people of Afghanistan are fed up with civil war and they want to get rid of all the past rancor and antagonism. The NSP is a vital programme through which we can bring peace and security to our country and live in brotherhood.”

Deputy-Minister, Ministry of Rural Reconstruction and Development stated during the ‘From Disarmament to Disbursement: Parwan Communities Receive their First NSP Grants News Article’

“My dream is to make enough money employed at the factory after my apprenticeship is completed to purchase my own motorbike”, stated Jaweed, age 18. “I know I will succeed”.

Jaweed works at the Ariana Motorbike Factory supported by USAID through UN-Habitat in apprenticeship projects.

“My name is Zahra, I am married with two children and live in the village of Qala-e- Munara, Parwan. As a child there were no opportunities for school so I remained illiterate. I learned to tailor clothing and earn a living, operating out of my home but it has been difficult to expand my clientele. My biggest problems was recording clients’ measurements, the cost for a job and delivery dates. It only takes one or two bad cuts to ruin an outfit and cost me my profits for a month. My husband is also illiterate so I cannot turn to him for help in this regard. I jumped at the opportunity to participate in LCEP’s 10-month literacy programme. Since graduating I can record a customer’s name and measurements on an order sheet which I pin to the front of their material. This has helped my business by reducing costly mistakes. I am now able to calculate my income measured against my expenses. With this renewed confidence I have increased my number of clients and taken on three students to assist with the workload. I am now able to cover my costs and contribute to household expenses.”
Tawakol is a 50 years old woman who has been living in District 6 for 12 years. She says that before this project she did not have the opportunity to work and assist the community. “We were just staying at home, but now we have the opportunity to work and do our part and share in the community. We are implementing learning and training courses for the women of this Gozar Assembly and we have established a kindergarten for the children of the community. The challenges my people and I faced, were lack of opportunity to contribute to the community, equal opportunity to assist the society, place to get together and work towards a specific goal, opportunity to get training and learn a profession, lack of opportunity to get in contact, meet and discuss our problems and opportunity for income generation”.

Shayeqa Tawakol

The Minister, Atmar, also brought a message of change. “In the past,” he declared, “the (instruction) notices were in the hands of the people, and the pens were in the hand of the Government. The NSP is changing this. From now on the Government’s job is to respond to the needs of the people.”

Atmar, The Minister

Mr. Haji Khan Agha lives in Qasem Khel village, Jabul Saraj District, Parwan Province. He has one son and two daughters. At the beginning, he did not let his daughters go to school because he thought that going to school was just waste of time and not necessary for girls. Village Health Committee members of the village tried to convince Mr. Agha to have his daughters go to school several times by explaining the importance of education for girls, but no success...

Mr. Haji Khan Agha

One day Ms. Samira, head of female Village Health Committee of the village visited Mr. Agha in order to explain how important basic education is for girls. The discussion was very productive and helpful for him to understand the overall concept of the project as well as the importance of the education for children. At the end, Mr. Agha was moved and realized that the education for girls had a vital role in their life. Then he expressed his interests in being a volunteer for the Health committee, and started sending his daughters to the primary school.

Reported by Ms. Samira Head of Female VHC
PHILIPPINES

13 YEARS OF PARTNERSHIP

Source: UN-Habitat, Regional Office for Asia and Pacific
UN-HABITAT IN PHILIPPINES
13 years of partnership
(2003-2016)

**SIGNIFICANT IMPROVEMENT IN 19 CHILD FOCUSED MDG INDICATORS** (expected to increase) benefiting over 2 million people in 15 cities

- Direct Improved Quality of Life for 607 children from the slums, representing the FACE of the MDGs (ages 0 - 17 years) in 15 cities
- Focusing on the lives of the 607 children, their families and communities, within 5 months:
  - 41% improvement in exposure to abuse
  - 62% improvement in children eating 3 meals a day
  - 23% of households showed increase in income ranging from the poverty threshold
  - 13% increase in children’s weight, an indicator of nutrition and health
  - 74% increase in access to safe drinking water
  - 28% increase in access to sanitary toilets

**OVER 2,382 SLUM DWELLER HOUSEHOLDS**
Expected to increase reaching the entire population of the 9 target cities of over 3 million people

**IMPROVED QUALITY OF LIFE**
Over 2,382 households obtained homeowner association loans

- Improved capacities of 10 homeowner associations (in 7 LGUs) in financial management, organizational skills, project and estate management skills
- Homeowner associations now have direct access to loans from Development Bank of Philippines (DBP) to implement shelter and slum upgrading programmes at the community level
- Improved livelihood for 508 households
- Increased income from P40 to P100 per day

**SAFE DRINKING WATER AND IMPROVED SANITATION**
668 households received potable water and improved sanitation in Caraga region
133 households received potable water in Sorsogon City

Capacity of 5 NGOs partners (in Caraga region, Sorsogon City and Camarines Sur province) improved in WATSAN policies and international standards and water management, this is expected to have direct benefit for their entire population

**OVER 1.1 MILLION PEOPLE**

**BEFTER LIVING ENVIRONMENT AND GOOD HEALTH**
Garbage volume reduced (following a ‘no segregation, no collection’ policy implemented)

- Integrated solid waste management system implemented
- Illegal fishing reduced as a result of implemented policies
- No litter in streets
- Habit of segregation institutionalized
- 50% reduction in fuel and lubricant expenses of the Barangay

Contributed to
UNIVERSAL DEVELOPMEN GOALS

**SAVED FROM CLIMATE THREATS**
Accelerated recovery and improved living condition for 30 communities.

- Sheltered with peace of mind with improved living condition
- 660 Haiyan-affected households received core houses with basic services, improving their living condition and safety
- 270 Typhoon Hagupit (locally known as Ruby) affected households received 90 core houses as emergency shelter saving them from the rains, winds and floods

Over 2,017,367
Improved live for over 13 years of partnership (1992-2016)
BUILDING RESILIENCE TOWARDS ACHIEVING SUSTAINABLE URBANISATION AND DEVELOPMENT

UN-Habitat has been working in partnership with the Government of Philippines and with communities across the country since 2003 and transformed the people from beneficiaries into development partners.

WHEN WE ARRIVED

• There was unplanned rapid urbanization;
• People Power movement had removed the dictatorial government in 1986 and the new government had to re-establish democratic institutions;
• The Asian economic boom had resulted in rapid economic growth, and urban growth at the turn of the century led to massive infrastructure and systems building which were largely spontaneous;
• The high urban growth also led to the increased need for housing and proliferation of informal settlements.

SOME OF WHAT WE HAVE BEEN DOING

• Supported the global launch of the twin campaign of Good Urban Governance and Secure Tenure with UN-Habitat leading the launch in the country;
• Supported the Philippine Urban Forum as platform for policy development and coordination;
• Supported advocacy and policy work on developing the framework of Localizing the MDGs as platform for the twin urban campaign;
• Supported the Localization of the MDGs;
• Technical support to the review and enhancement of the National Urban Development and Housing Framework (NUDHF);
• Technical support in the formulation of the Local Shelter Planning Guidelines now being rolled out by government to all local governments;

• Developed local tools and approaches for planning city extensions. Four cities have developed their planned city extensions in selected growth areas;

• Partnered with the Housing and Urban Development Coordinating Council and the Social Housing Finance Corporation during the post-Haiyan shelter programme and demonstrated the value of the People’s Process during risk reduction and management planning, along with shelter reconstruction and rehabilitation post-disasters;

• Demonstration of participatory approaches in infrastructure planning, design and implementation in water and sanitation, water systems management (estuaries), community centers, roads and drainage;

• Demonstrated successful implementation of shelter provision through the People’s Process in post-disaster response (for example, Super Typhoon Haiyan);

• Contributed to the increased awareness and knowledge of climate change in national and local governments. Increased capacities of relevant national agencies in mainstreaming climate change into development planning processes;

• Capacity development of national and local institutions in the areas of urban planning, urban governance, urban economy and finance, urban basic services and housing, strengthening budgeting processes along development goals.

PHILIPPINES

The 12th most populous country in the world (an archipelago of 7,100 islands in the western Pacific Ocean)

Population is estimated at about 101 million (August 2015). By 2050, the Philippine population is expected to be 148 million

Metro Manila (also called the National Capital Region) urban area had an estimated total population of 12.88 million in 2015, making it the 4th most populous urban agglomeration in the world

Urban population was 44% of total population in 2014 (United Nations estimate). By 2050, it is projected that the urbanization level of the Philippines will reach 56%

One of the most disaster-prone areas in the world, often described as among the top 20 countries most likely to be affected by climate change due to its geographic location at the Pacific Ring of Fire (geologic hazards) and Pacific Typhoon Belt (for hydromet hazards)

The number of informal settlers in Metro Manila has reached 556,526 households—about 3.4 million people—of which 18% or around 614,436 people are living in disaster-prone areas.

The country just had its national elections and the new government recently assumed office in July 2016

EXAMPLES OF OUTPUTS FROM OUR INTERVENTIONS (PROJECTS/PROGRAMMES)

• Inter-local sharing of best practices and cross-fertilization of ideas among MDG Resource Cities and replication sites;

• Tools for mainstreaming MDGs in local plans and budgets at national, city and barangay/village levels developed;

• Tools for communicating the MDGs including social artistry developed;

• Hazards, risks and vulnerabilities assessment tools for the MDGs developed;

• Eight (8) MDG-focused disaster mitigation toolkits produced by the 8 cities;
• Technology of participation developed to facilitate the cooperation and active participation of families, local government and 119 local partners;

• Innovative tools and technologies developed for capacity development of families and communities, (for example, the Child MDGs, people process technologies for community driven housing, Report Card and MDG Quick Action Guide);

• 56 quick response mechanisms established at the family, community and city level;

• Enhanced Local Shelter Planning Guidelines;

• Shelter strategies formulated for 4 LGUs;

• Climate Change Action Planning (LCCAP) guidelines;

• At the local level, more than 12 cities and municipalities conducted their climate change vulnerability assessments and improved their development plans accordingly;

• Planning city extensions guidebook for local government units and other local tools and approaches for planning city extensions;

• Tools for mainstreaming disaster risk reduction;

• Post Typhoon Haiyan recovery and rehabilitation plans for Tacloban City, Ormoc City and Guiuan Municipality formulation. The plans, while primarily being a guide and strategy for recovery and reconstruction, also introduced resiliency building activities to protect the city and its human settlements from shocks and future disasters.

EXAMPLES OF OUTCOMES OF OUR SUPPORT

• MDGs mainstreamed in local plans and budget (also translated into meaningful goals and targets at the city, community and family level where their achievement became everybody’s responsibility and within reach);

• MDG localization sustained through legislative measures and instruments;

• Improved local development planning and increased efficiency of resource allocation;

• The inter-local sharing of best practices and cross-fertilization of ideas responded to the uneven progress and wide disparities across sub-national regions and in all goals and targets by harnessing pilot cities as mentors and resource;
• Improved organization, financial, project and estate management skills for homeowner associations (HOAs) in 7 local government units (LGUs);

• Improved capacities of participating LGUs in various areas including: capacity to disaster-sensitize the MDGs through the conduct of a hazards, risks and vulnerabilities assessment, (HRVA) focused on specific MDG themes to inform a local reform agenda protecting the MDGs from external threats;

• National Urban Development and Housing Framework realigned and enhanced as a national policy anchor to address relevant MDG issues including strategic interventions in the urban slums;

• The MDG FACES project gave a human face to the MDG, facilitating the achievement of many MDG indicators;

• Increased and demonstrated communities’ ownership of own development. Families and communities changed from being beneficiaries to development partners. They became involved and responsible for the changes in their lives and tracked their own progress in achieving the MDGs. For example, a project funding of US$30,000 generated local counterparts amounting to US$269,000 or 900% leverage;

• Communities gained direct access to housing finance from the development bank based on proven capacity to pay

• Capacity for sustainable self-recovery improved in target cities;

• Capacity of Philippines cities to address climate change impact strengthened, benefiting the entire population;

• Improved capacity of Youth and Women to participate in initiatives towards achieving safety and resiliency in their communities;

• Improved livelihood of women through acquisition and utilization of various skills;

• Strengthened resiliency and safety in urban informal settlements;

• Improved service delivery to the people.

**EXAMPLES OF IMPACTS ON THE LIVES OF THE PEOPLES**

• Significant improvement in 19 child focused MDG indicators;

• Improved quality of lives for 607 children and their families;

• Improved economic capacity, livelihood and Increased purchasing power of families;

• Empowered participants in the development process;

• Improved social conditions;
UN-HABITAT’S LEGACY

- National government replicated the ‘FACES’ project (which has been the culmination of the Localizing the MDGs) in almost all the cities nationwide (128 of the 142). The FACES has become the platform informing the localization of the SDGs;

- The ‘People’s Process’ approach was institutionalized and inspired the government through the National Housing Authority to establish the Community-Based Shelter and Livelihood (CBSL) programme. This is an alternative mode of shelter delivery which departs from the contractor/developer-driven housing delivery. Another government agency, the Social Housing Finance Corporation (SHFC) also incorporated the People’s Process into their Community Mortgage Programme as a means of empowering communities in building better lives;

- The National Urban Development and Housing Framework (NUDHF) and the country’s urban agenda articulated through the Habitat III national report are expected to inform the formulation of the new Philippine Development Plan (2017-2023);

- The Local Shelter Planning (LSP) manual is being rolled out to all local governments in the country. The manual helps capacitate local governments to respond to the 5.5 million housing need and develop implementable housing strategies and programmes.

WHO WE WORK WITH (OUR PARTNERS)

WHO ARE/WERE THE DONORS?

- Asian Development Bank
- BDO Foundation
- World Food Programme
- IKI-BMUB (Germany)
- Cities Alliance
- Government of Japan
- Government of Norway
- Instituto de Promoción y Apoyo al Desarrollo (IPADE)
- Spanish International Cooperation for Development Agency (AECID)
- UNDP
- UNICEF

TESTIMONIALS FROM THE BENEFICIARIES

“IT is really difficult living here in tents; that’s why when they gave us this, we were all happy because now there is hope.”

Olivia Fuentes, a Resident of Guiuan while demonstrating the plans for the new UN-Habitat Core Houses. She was displaced during the typhoon

“I was here in Pawa in November 2014. There was nothing here except fishponds. Now I am surprised to see all these beautiful houses after only eight months. This is a great step forward. I am very happy. The families gifted with these houses must take care of them like their children.”

Koji Otani, second secretary to the Ambassador of Japan in the Philippines.

“The women of Pawa are tough. They are fighters. But first of all, they are wives and mothers. They will do anything for their families. Now that the UN-Habitat project had provided them the resources they needed, nothing could stop them from building their honest-to-goodness nests”

Dr. Leah Sicad, a leading psychiatrist in Pawa

“The history of Capiz is now divided into BY and AY—Before Yolanda and After Yolanda. I had never seen so much destruction in my life. It was as if God was punishing us. But After Yolanda, the situation has improved. Partner communities have new resilient housing units. More importantly, communities have been transformed.”

Governor Victor A. Tanco; he was among the distinguished guests during the turnover rites in Barangay Pawa, Municipality of Panay, Province of Capiz.

“Because of the project, the community knew me as a skilled foreman,” Francisco says cheerfully. “With God’s grace, I have been regularly accepting construction work.”

Christopher Sheen Gonzales, the mayor of Guiuan on UN-Habitat’s contribution in Guiuan.

“It was a participative way of doing the master plan. It’s just not a one man’s show and that’s why I like UN-Habitat because they believe the people of Guiuan can contribute.”

Christopher Sheen Gonzales, the mayor of Guiuan on UN-Habitat’s contribution in Guiuan.
“Instead of the usual resettlement, UN-Habitat helped in developing a strategy to develop and plan the township. So it was an integrated approach to development and more sustainable from several aspects—social, economic, environmental, and even governance.”

*Mariya Lagman, City Housing Office Head in Tacloban City.*

“Usually only the rich have construction plans, but here every household has a construction plan and we all learned how to read and understand these plans. UN-Habitat conducted DRR Seminars, in order to train us how to be disaster resilient. So now, whatever happens, we are now more prepared.”

*Joselito Asevedo, a community leader in Barangay Pontevedra Capiz, Philippines.*

“What I see now is, people are empowered and thinking the right way. Climate change adaptation is now in their attitude, their minds, and their way of life and I think that’s what’s crucial. Making it a part of their way of life. So I thank UN-Habitat for that.”

*Alfred Romualdez, Mayor of Tacloban City.*

“As one of the heavily damaged areas by Yolanda, UN-Habitat was really instrumental in helping us draft our city recovery and rehabilitation plan. Another area where they extended valuable assistance was in drafting the adaptation and other measures. They helped us create our local shelter plan.”

*Coloy Tolibao, DRR officer in Ormoc City, Philippines.*
19 YEARS OF PARTNERSHIP

Iraq

Source: UN-Habitat, Regional Office for Arab States
UN-HABITAT IN IRAQ
19 years of partnership
(1997-2016)

Over 4.3 million
Northern Iraqis

Economic Prosperity
Enhanced capacity of the construction industry supports the economic development process through rehabilitation and expansion of the area’s infrastructure

Improved capacity of local authorities to handle the process of economic development

Revitalised and vibrant construction sector in Northern Iraq (there were previously less than 15 registered contractors in Northern Iraq and modern construction equipment was scarce; basic construction materials were also in short supply)

Registered contractors increased from 15 to 900 contractors some of whom grew from small to medium sized with some going into partnership with companies from central and Southern Iraq as well as Turkey

Over 80,000 jobs created taking thousands away from poverty

Over 1.35 million
people residents of informal settlements

Improved Living Environment and Quality of Life
Improved living condition

Increased access to urban basic services and infrastructure, such as 706km of water mains, 198km sewer, 2940 km roads, 34 bridges

Increased social integration and cohesion (175 community centres)

Improved access to education (765 schools constructed)

Residents obtained 22,147 dignifying shelter

Improved access to health facilities (134 health centres constructed)

Over 152,890
people
(SAMAWA CITY)

ACCESS HEALTH CARE
Primary health centre servicing 1,500 patients per week constructed and in operation

Reduced child and maternal mortality - Expanded maternity and children hospital (Samawa)

Increased access to healthcare - Public hospital rehabilitated with 60 beds

Over 110,312
BOYS AND GIRLS
(3712 HIGHER LEARNERS)

Access Quality Education
Primary school enrolment increased by 13% for all students (with 14% increase for girls)

Primary school attendance rate increased from 72% to 82%

Better learning environment and overcrowding of classrooms reduced (960 child-friendly modern primary schools comprehensively rehabilitated/constructed and 797 new classrooms constructed in addition; water and sanitation, furniture and other basic amenities)

Hope for the urban youth - 10 higher educational institutions (University and technical institutes) rehabilitated and some provided with IT equipment, 26 classrooms, 138 residential units with accommodation for 512 students including basic site infrastructure; improving quality and access to education for youth

Improved teaching methods, child-centred learning and gender sensitivity

Improved capacity of 652 teachers and headmasters and 55 technical staff

Improved capacity of 24 government staff on the importance of girls education, modern teaching methodology and gender issues

Access to water and proper sanitation facilities provided

Hygiene culture cultivated (5,000 school sanitation hygiene manuals produced and used as part of curriculum)

Contributed to
UNITED NATIONS MILLENNIUM DEVELOPMENT GOALS

Contributing to
SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT GOALS
REBUILDING TOGETHER TOWARDS SUSTAINABLE URBAN DEVELOPMENT

UN-Habitat has accompanied the people and Government of Iraq since 1997 through times of hardship and conflict and times of growth and boom, and has improved the lives of hundreds of thousands of Iraqis, responded to crisis in cities and supported reforms and the realization of sustainable urban development.

WHEN WE ARRIVED

- There was the strict UN sanction against Iraq after the first Gulf War;
- Iraq’s economy was crushed; per capita GDP, which had rapidly grown to 10,000 USD in the years preceding 1990, shrunk to 1,370 USD by 2003 due to sanctions;
- Three previous decades of internal struggles, the Iran-Iraq war, (1980-1988), the Areal Campaign, (1988), Halabja genocide (1988), the Gulf War (1990) and the “Arabization” campaign of the regime had triggered mass displacement of an estimated 1 million people in the northern governorates and between the south and the north of the country;
- Many years of conflicts and sanctions had taken a heavy toll on health and education services which had previously been among the best developed in the region.

SOME OF WHAT WE HAVE BEEN DOING

- The UN Secretariat called on UN-Habitat to act as the implementing agency for the Settlements Rehabilitation Sector in the three northern governorates of Erbil, Dohuk and Sulaimaniyah;
- The UN entrusted UN-Habitat with the responsibility of addressing a humanitarian problem of vast proportions. This included over 800,000 internally displaced people and an even larger number of vulnerable groups. The situation called for a multidimensional approach to deliver shelter, basic services and infrastructure to the most disadvantaged families in the target groups, while at the same time enhancing the capacity of national staff, local authorities and private sector;
- Once the Security Council resolution 1483 was adopted in 2003, the legal impediment preventing local capacity building were dropped and UN-Habitat initiated a major capacity building programme benefitting both government and private sector; focusing on urban planning and geographical information system (GIS), project formulation, tendering and procurement, and management and maintenance of construction plant and equipment;
- UN-Habitat is today confronted by the very real and contemporary challenges that Iraq’s cities are facing. These challenges can be classified into two categories: (i) Rapid Urbanisation and (ii) Conflict. The challenges of urbanization have been compounded by the advances of Daesh and the armed struggle against it;
- In order to meet these challenges, UN-Habitat follows a multi-dimensional and coherent approach that is diverse and ranges from urgent tasks such as providing safe, basic shelter for IDPs, to building the capacities of local and national governments in managing rapid urbanization and structural planning;
• In addition UN-Habitat has been studying the impacts of the armed conflict on cities in order to advise on a recovery and reconstruction process that eventually contributes to achieving sustainable urbanization;

• UN-Habitat’s current supports to the government are in the areas of: provision of adequate shelter conditions as planned extensions of cities, building back better, integrated, inclusive and sustainable human settlements; responding to unplanned urbanization; all in a way that ensures smooth transition from emergency relief to recovery and sustainable urban development;

• In support of the reconstruction of newly liberated areas in Iraq, UN-Habitat is working with national partners and the UN Country Team in an integrated Five Pillar support programme that comprises of housing and shelter rehabilitation, livelihood support, conflict resolution and social cohesion, land and tenure support and infrastructure/ public services recovery.

EXAMPLES OF OUTPUTS FROM OUR INTERVENTIONS (PROJECTS/PROGRAMMES)

• Iraq national housing policy adopted in 2010 (including action plan and institutional reform plan adopted) after many years of no policy since the 1970s when the implementation of the General Housing Plan in Iraq was stopped due to the wars and lack of adequate attention to the housing sector;

• Revised Baghdad master plan as a first step towards providing the legal basis to address informal areas and provide needed services (potential to benefit - 650,000 people);

• Road map and three laws endorsed by the council of ministers to prevent further extension of informal areas, to enable the implementation of different options (upgrading, redevelopment by land sharing and relocation) and to regularize the un-cultivable land within master plans;

• Building codes updated, once endorsed and operational, 30,000 households per year will live in houses that are safer, more energy efficient and accessible to disabled people;

• Urban profiles for 18 Iraqi Cities;

IRAQ

In 1997 Iraq’s population was 20.6 million, 68% was urban

The population has increased to 33.3 million, 60% under the age of 24 and 72% of Iraqis currently live in urban area. It is estimated that by 2030, the population will grow to almost 50 million, which will put further strains on access to adequate housing

In 2006, conflict between Sunni and Shia groups following the bombing of the Samara Shrine led to the internal displacement of 1.6 million Iraqis. Ten years later (2016), 1.1 million of these remain internally displaced; the majority living in unplanned camps and informal settlements

Internally displaced people (IDPs), including those still displaced since 2006, make up 10% of the national population

The conflict in Syria since 2011 resulted in the movement of Syrian refugees to Iraq. There are approximately 250,000 Syrian refugees, mainly in the northern governorates of Dohuk, Erbil and Suleymaniah

Iraq is considered one of the most youthful countries in the world with nearly half of its population being less than 21 years old

Out of the 11,368 primary schools in Iraq, only 11% were undamaged
• A State of Iraqis’ Cities report;
• Community policing system was established;
• Comprehensive model for decentralization management of water and sanitation developed in Najaf and to be scaled up to national level;
• Housing strategy for Erbil;
• Urban Basic Services and Infrastructure such as 706km of water mains, 199km sewer, 2940 km roads, 34 bridges; 175 community centres, 765 schools for slum dweller;
• Residents obtained 22,147 dignifying shelter;
• 134 health centres;
• 360 child-friendly modern primary schools comprehensively rehabilitated/constructed and 371 new classrooms constructed in addition; with water and sanitation, furniture and other basic amenities);
• 10 higher educational institutions (university and technical institutes) rehabilitated and some provided with IT equipment; 25 classrooms, 128 residential units with accommodation for 512 students including basic site infrastructure; improving quality and access to education for youth.

EXAMPLES OF OUTCOMES OF OUR SUPPORT

• Strengthened housing sector; revived, integrated and sustainable housing activities benefiting the entire Iraq population;
• The development of the construction industry was stimulated, the number of registered contractors increased from just 15 when we engaged to over 900 by 2003 and continues to grow;
• The construction sector created over 80,000 jobs that proved critical in sustaining livelihoods;
• Human resources significantly improved in the region, with over 500 highly trained nationals, who achieved mastery of state-of-the-art project-planning, procurement, management and information technology tools;
• Improved school enrolment rates, particularly for girls;
• Improved quality of life for all urban residents;
• Capacity of local authority enhanced to respond to and prevent violence against women and girls in public spaces;
• Improved and equitable distribution of urban basic services;
• More than 2,000 people received secured tenure;
• Increased access to maternity health and gender-based violence services;
• Empowered women with voice;
• 110,312 young girls and boys benefitted from 12 new child-friendly modern primary schools.

EXAMPLES OF IMPACTS ON THE LIVES OF THE PEOPLE

• The Iraq national housing policy revived and created integrated and sustained housing activities;
• Enhanced health and dignity of displaced women;
• Improved livelihood;
• Improved quality of life;
• Dignity restored;
• Increased school attendance for girls resulting into a better future. school enrolment rates used to be disproportionately higher for girls;
• Increased women and girls’ safety in public spaces;
• Cycle of poverty broken, hope restored and frustration taken away for 512 displaced youths;
• Temporary university established in Abu Ghraib for students of the besieged, giving them access to education and hope for the future;
• Lives of mother and child saved; maternity health improved.
UN-HABITAT’S LEGACY

- UN-Habitat’s work on pro-poor housing demonstrated both innovation and adaptability to Iraqi needs and priorities. The Pioneering house market survey was used by the Government to attract funding;
- The National Housing Policy was developed in close partnership with the Government of Iraq and funded by ITF (Iraq Trust Fund). The strategy is under implementation through the federal budget;
- The catalytic role that UN-Habitat played in improving access to land and security of tenure has also contributed to pro-poor housing policies being implemented in Erbil by the Kurdistan Regional Government (KRG). The Baghdad Informal Settlements Initiative and the sustainable housing finance are some of the pioneering areas in improving access to land and security of tenure;
- The draft law on public land management;
- The agency has been at the forefront with advocacy that sustainable development needs good governance and proper management in cities and towns. It supported the shift towards decentralization.

WHO WE WORK WITH (OUR PARTNERS)

- UN-Habitat worked mainly with the Iraqi Government (national and local); including UNDP, UNFPA, UNHCR, UN Office of the Humanitarian Coordinator for Iraq (UNOHCI), FAO, UNICEF, WHO and UNESCO.

WHO ARE/WERE THE DONORS?

- Government of the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia
- Government of Japan
- UNDG Iraq Trust fund

- Government of South Korea
- European Commission
TESTIMONIALS FROM THE BENEFICIARIES

“UN-Habitat came and consulted with us on how to best fix these houses in a modern way.”
“UN-Habitat really did a great job. They fixed a number of houses in the best way possible.”

**Mayor Abdullah Ahmad, Pirzin Erbil**

“They Installed the water tank, they fixed the kitchen, they also installed a hand wash basin, fixed all the water taps, they also installed all the doors and everything inside the bathroom. Things are better than before, thanks.”

**Syrian Refugee**

“The sanitation facilities were in very poor conditions, the school corridors and yard were not clean, the windows and doors were broken. And now all the doors, windows are fixed, they also appointed monitors to keep cleanliness, the classrooms have also been rehabilitated and they also supplied the classrooms with new desks and chairs for the students.”

**Student – Al-Sharif Al-Radhi School**

“We are really grateful for the upgrading project which was implemented by KRG, UN-Habitat and UNDP whose roles have been influential in Kurani Ainkawa upgrading. Now we have tenures for our houses and no problem exists any longer. We can now rebuild and expand our houses.”

**Male beneficiary from the Kurani Ainkawa upgrading**
“Life under the tent is hard, it doesn’t resist the wind nor the rain. The difference is huge between a tent and a shelter unit, we now have a ceiling, doors, rest room and bathroom.”

*Abu Ibrahim, IDP Baharka*

“According to the agreement between UN-Habitat and the land lord the tenancy is fixed and they can’t force them out or increase the rent.”

*Mayor Abdullah Ahmad, Pirzin Erbil*

“We renew the tenancy every six months. During this time nobody can expel you. It is a very good system”.

*Mahmood Mohammad Tenant in Pirzin Erbil and Refugee from Syria*

“In the past the houses were in poor conditions, and there were previously illegal housing on lands that belonged to the government and municipalities. We didn’t have tenure and suffered from lack of services including electricity and water. For such reasons we are grateful for the project as we currently have no problem and enjoy water, electricity, improved road network and school facilities. In addition, they are currently building a mosque in the area. We do thank Kurdistan Regional Government and UN agencies involved.”

*Male Beneficiary from the completion of the project in Erbil*
“In brief, the project strategy has positively targeted those people who stayed in Kurani Ainkawa and those who were resettled in Gird Jutyer. Since, facilities have been provided and tenure issues solved. It was in fact an outstanding project regarding serving people and transferring them from an informal status into a legal one and these people are currently living like residents of other neighborhoods in Erbil.”

_Nawzad Hadi, the Governor of Erbil in Iraq_
**UN-HABITAT IN KINGDOM OF SAUDI ARABIA**

12 years of partnership
(2004-2016)

**ACHIEVING SUSTAINABLE CITIES AND COMMUNITIES**

- Improved evidence-based city and regional planning
- Improved policy implementation benefiting 45% of the total population of the Kingdom (31 million inhabitants) especially people who live in cities who represent more than 85% of the inhabitants of KSA
- Reduced crime level, increased feeling of safety
- Better living environment
- Improved access to medical facilities
- Improved quality of life of lower income groups (slum dwellers)
- Improved service delivery

Women empowered, participate and contribute to social, economic and political decisions (national and local)

Evidenced based decisions by the national and local government resulting into responsive and effective development initiatives and policies

National and local urban observatories provide data at city level on multiple dimensions of prosperity

Over 600 Royal orders, Laws, by laws, Ministerial decrees, Municipal directives and guideline reviewed to enhance city planning system and improve municipal functions and institutions

Over 50 City Prosperity Indicators collected and analyzed for the six dimensions of prosperity (productivity, quality of life, social inclusion, infrastructure development, environmental sustainability and Urban planning and institutions) and influencing development initiatives

Over 1000 professionals are more aware of city prosperity initiatives

8 cities Authorities from Saudi Arabia regions are actively utilizing the city prosperity initiative and its indicators in monitoring city development

Recommendations for enhancing coordination, development and integration within regions for 5 Saudi regions developed and debated with relevant stakeholders in the First Saudi Urban forum

Saudi Arabia witnessed the first ever highly participativeConference and first ever Saudi Urban forum with the highest participation of over 2053 participants out of which more than 10% are women (from women, Youth, NGO, academia, Cities authorities, municipal elected leaders and government)

**ACHIEVING GENDER EQUALITY- WOMEN EMPOWERED**

- 968 women registered as candidates for the first time ever (from zero in previous elections)

**ACHIEVING THE MDGs**

- Al-Madina Al-Monawarah Local Urban Observatory (MLUO) data were at the forefront of monitoring the Millennium Development Goals, poverty alleviation and the upgrading of informal settlements. MLUO pioneered data collection which had a major impact on the lives of the people living in Saudi Arabia through improved monitoring of Ambulance response services, improved solid waste collection services, reduced crime level and better resolution of divorce problems as a result of detailed monitoring and investigation

Evidenced based decisions by the national and local government resulting into responsive and effective development initiatives and policies
PARTNERSHIP FOR SUSTAINABLE URBAN DEVELOPMENT

UN-Habitat has been in partnership with the Government of the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia since 2004 and has been supporting reforms and the realization of sustainable urban development.

WHEN WE ARRIVED

- There was rapid unplanned urbanization;
- The old master plans and urban legislations in different cities did not reflect the changes in the Kingdom in terms of the increased population and the rapid unplanned urbanization which created a horizontal expansion for the Saudi cities and caused a low population density and increased costs for public infrastructure, utilities, and services provision, operation and maintenance, energy consumption and created informal settlements;
- Limited public transportation increased the use of private vehicles, resulting in traffic congestions and higher pollution;
- A large mismatch existed between youth skills and emerging employment opportunities especially for young women, plus the housing shortage for Youth;
- No or little engagement in setting local urban policies and plans.

SOME OF WHAT WE HAVE BEEN DOING

- Most of the support at the beginning was in relation to the establishment of Local Urban Observatories in Madinah Region, subsequently, the support of UN-Habitat extended to other municipalities. This partnership is now more strategically framed in the Future Saudi Cities Programme (FSCP) with the Ministry of Municipalities and Rural Affairs;
- Al-Madinah Local Urban Observatory (MLUO) was established in 2004 through technical assistance from UN-Habitat in collaboration with UNDP, as the first Urban Observatory in the Arab Region with solid database and analytical skills and report. UN-Habitat supported the replication in other cities. This observatory won several renowned international and regional prizes;
- Under the future Saudi Cities Programme implemented by UN-Habitat, the agency established full presence in Saudi Arabia and has been providing technical support
to the Ministry of Municipalities and Rural Affairs (MOMRA) and the target 17 key cities in the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia to cover 70% of the total population of the Kingdom (about 21 million inhabitants) distributed on the key cities of Riyadh, Makkah, Jeddah, Taif, Medina, Tabuk, Damam, Qatif, Al-Ehsa, Abha, Najran, Jazan, Haief, Arar, Al-Baha, Buraydah and Sakaka, to respond to national and local urban challenges;

- Supporting the development of urban planning, urban statistics and spatial information (Geographic Information System) in order to provide relevant urban information that strongly support decision making process on urban development and urban planning in the target 17 key cities;

- Supporting Saudi Arabia 2030 vision particularly in two main initiatives: the formulation of new urban planning act and revising the National Spatial Strategy;

- Supporting the Kingdom on other issues, such as:
  - The development of policy and legal framework to address the cities’ challenges,
  - Capacity development of national and local institutions,
  - The social inclusion of all stakeholders especially women and youth in urban planning,
  - Provision of evidence based data to inform decision makers through the Youth-specific City Prosperity Indicators,
  - Public awareness on sustainable urbanization issues;

- A new project is underway with the housing sector in order to support the Ministry of Housing in revising the current housing strategy and formulating innovative housing finance mechanisms and also supporting the Ministry’s strategies to support urban upgrading initiatives;

- UN-Habitat is collaborating with other UN agencies in several thematic areas such as youth and gender where several workshops and events will take place to reflect joint UN work in KSA;

- UN-Habitat is supporting philanthropic NGOs in the field of the new sustainable development goals and with specific emphasis on SDG Goal 11. This support has materialised in a number of training events with Prince Walled Bin Talal philanthropic NGO;

- UN-Habitat is accompanying the central government and local authorities to move towards more strategic and integrated urban and regional planning frameworks with the view to ensuring territorial cohesion and boosting economic competitiveness.
EXAMPLES OF OUTPUT FROM OUR INTERVENTIONS (PROJECTS/PROGRAMMES)

- Al-Madinah Local Urban Observatory (MLUO);
- Madina, Mekka city and Jeddah city, Riyadh, Najran, Dammam, Abha, Ilsha, sakaka, etc) established Local Urban Observatories, based on the success of the Al-Madinah;
- Revised Municipal Transformation Strategy approved in 2016;
- City development strategies, city extension plans and slum upgrading and area improvement programmes;

EXAMPLES OF OUTCOMES OF OUR SUPPORT

- Al-Medina Al-Monawarah Local Urban Observatory (MLUO) data were at the forefront of monitoring the Millennium Development Goals, poverty alleviation and the upgrading of informal settlements. MLUO pioneered data collection which had a major impact on the lives of the people living in Saudi Arabia through improved monitoring of Ambulance response services, improved solid waste collection services, reduced crime level and better resolution of divorce problems as a result of detailed monitoring and investigation;
- Armed with more information available on cities courtesy of the MLUO, the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia revised its National Spatial strategy approved in 2012; The implementation of the strategy was linked with development plans of Saudi Arabia (7th, 8th and 9th);
- Urban residents are more aware of the situation in their city through the information provided by the Al-Medina Al-Monawarah Local Urban Observatory;
- The slum upgrading and urban regeneration of Al-Medina was based on the clear assessment of the Al-Medina Al-Monawarah Local Urban Observatory data resulting in improved quality of life of lower income groups and the urban fabric;
- Increased synergy between urban strategies and sector plans;
- Increased capacity of national and local urban observatories to provide data at city level on multiple dimensions of prosperity;
- Evidenced based decisions by the national and local government resulting into responsive and effective development initiatives and policies;
- Customized approaches for a new urban agenda identified;
- Understanding of institutional and legislative environment enhanced;
- Public awareness raised on sustainable urbanization approaches and responsibilities;
- Women and youth now engage in urban planning practices;
• Improved municipal service delivery;
• Improved participation and role of women in elections as 130,000 women voted and 968 women registered as candidates for elections for the first time ever, with a good number elected;
• The three pronged approach informed the new Municipal Transformation Policy;
• Saudi Arabia witnessed the first ever highly participative Conference and first ever Saudi Urban forum with the highest participation of over 2053 participants out of which more than 10% are women (from women, Youth, NGO, academia, Cities authorities, municipal elected leaders and government;
• Recommendations for enhancing coordination, development and integration within regions for 5 Saudi regions developed and debated with relevant stakeholders in the First Saudi Urban forum.
• Improved evidence-based city and regional planning;
• National and local urban observatories provide data at city level on multiple dimensions of prosperity;
• Over 650 Royal orders, Laws, by laws, Ministerial decrees, Municipal directives and guideline reviewed to enhance city planning system and improve municipal functions and institutions;
• Over 50 City Prosperity Indicators collected and analyzed for the six dimensions of prosperity (productivity, quality of life, social inclusion, infrastructure development, environmental sustainability and Urban planning and institutions) and influencing development initiatives;
• Over 1000 professionals are more aware of city prosperity initiatives;
• 8 cities Authorities from Saudi Arabia regions are actively utilizing the city prosperity initiative and its indicators in monitoring city development.
EXAMPLES OF IMPACTS ON THE LIVES OF THE PEOPLE

- Improved policy implementation benefiting 45% of the total population of the Kingdom (21 million inhabitants) especially people who live in cities who represent more than 85% of the inhabitants of KSA;
- Reduced crime level, increased feeling of safety;
- Better living environment;
- Improved access to medical facilities;
- Improved quality of life of lower income groups (slum dwellers);
- Improved service delivery;
- Women empowered, participate and contribute to social, economic and political decisions (national and local).

UN-HABITAT’S LEGACY

- The Urban observatory experience in Saudi Arabia for more than a decade now is a legacy not only in KSA but also in the Arab States. The culture of monitoring indicators is institutionalized in Saudi Cities now and they are able to move easily from monitoring Millennium Development Goals to monitoring the Sustainable Development Goals. This was demonstrated by their ability through the future Saudi Cities Programme to adopt the City prosperity Initiative.
- The Government also has not only adopted the Urban Indicators but also the 72 City prosperity Indicators; it established more than 12 Urban Observatories in 12 cities and now issued a cabinet order to establish the National Urban Observatory as a result of the recommendations of the Future Saudi Cities Programme.

WHO WE WORK WITH (OUR PARTNERS)

National Government of KSA and 17 municipalities, including the Local Urban Observatory of 13 cities, Development Authority of 2 cities and NGOs (Specifically women and youth focused)

WHO ARE/WERE THE DONORS?

- The Government of the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia

TESTIMONIALS FROM THE BENEFICIARIES

“Our Collaboration with UN-Habitat is necessary for transforming our cities to sustainable cities by improving our planning system. This is what UN-Habitat and the Ministry are working together within the Future Saudi Cities Programme.”

Dr. Abdul Rahman Al-shaikh, Deputy Minister for City Planning, Kingdom of Saudi Arabia
The emerging future of cities largely depends on the way we plan and manage urbanization, and the way we leverage this transformative process to ‘provide the setting, the underlying base and also the momentum for global change’
Decades of creating and sharing knowledge

2,255
Publications since 2003, covering diverse topics on Human Settlement, Sustainable Urbanization and Sustainable Development

International Guidelines on Urban and Territorial Planning
Published in 2015, translated to 11 languages and already achieved 98,969 Downloads

7 GLOBAL FLAGSHIP REPORTS
536,871 Downloads

Number of Publications by some thematic areas

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