Cross-Cutting Report 2017
UN Habitat is the United Nations programme working towards a better urban future. Its mission is to promote socially and environmentally sustainable human settlements development and the achievement of adequate shelter for all.
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The challenges of urbanization, particularly rising inequality and environmental degradation, are symptoms of a larger deficit in the respect for all people and the environment in cities. Only when all social and environmental dimensions are recognized and prioritised, will urbanization become the positive transformative force that it is.

The 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development is aimed at ‘leaving no one behind’ and the New Urban Agenda (NUA) reinforces the vision of inclusive and sustainable cities. At UN Habitat we advocate for cities that work to provide equal opportunity for all residents – female or male, young or old, rich or poor, able-bodied or otherwise, citizen, migrant or refugee. As the global frontrunner in sustainable, inclusive and participatory urbanization, UN Habitat leads by example in engaging the community in its work and tackling climate change in cities.

The four Cross-Cutting Issues of UN Habitat, as identified in the Strategic Plan 2014-2019, are mainstreamed to ensure that all UN Habitat work targets those furthest behind and promotes socially and environmentally sustainable cities. Mainstreaming requires that each and every project contributes to the larger long-term goals of UN Habitat, the New Urban Agenda and the Sustainable Development Goals.

In 2017 the mainstreaming of cross-cutting issues was strengthened, with improved coordination and a stronger presence within our work. The results of mainstreaming and capacity building are becoming clear, with project proposals increasingly focusing on social and environmental outcomes. The opportunities for inclusive and sustainable urbanisation have been recognized at the World
Urban Forum, the Governing Council and other major events such as COP23, CSW61 and the ECOSOC Youth Forum.

The growth of cities creates a unique opportunity to address social and environmental challenges – but this will require good governance and purposeful action from all stakeholders. By working together and learning from each other, we can ensure that urbanization benefits all. We must put a human face on urbanization.

Maimunah Mohd Sharif
Under-Secretary-General
and Executive Director
Introduction
The UN Habitat Strategic Plan 2014-2019 identifies four Cross-Cutting Issues to be mainstreamed: Climate Change, Gender Equality, Human Rights and Youth. The aim of mainstreaming these issues is to support country, regional and thematic offices, in order to ensure that all UN Habitat work is targeting those furthest behind and promoting socially and environmentally sustainable cities. Mainstreaming does not require that each and every project directly aims to address and solve these issues, but rather that they are contributing to the larger long-term goals of UN Habitat, the New Urban Agenda and the Sustainable Development Goals.
The four cross cutting issues are highly interrelated, especially in the context of urbanization. Cities are major contributors to climate change, whilst cities and residents are vulnerable to climate change and extreme weather. Among residents, women and youth are often the most vulnerable, along with other groups such as persons with disabilities, the poor, refugees and immigrants. They are usually marginalized in economic and political participation which means that they do not have equal access to the benefits of urbanization. Their rights to even the most basic services are sometimes hard to fulfilled. We are seeking an integrate approach to mainstream climate change, gender equality, human rights and youth issues into all UN Habitat programmatic work.

**Why Address These Issues?**

**Intrinsic Importance**

The challenges of urbanization, particularly rising inequality and environmental degradation, are symptoms of a larger deficit to respect different people and the environment in cities. Only when all social and environmental dimensions are respected and prioritised will urbanization realize itself as the transformative force that it is.

Stark inequalities exist not only related to income and wealth, but to gender, age, ethnicity and minority status, among others. This manifests through inequalities in opportunities and outcomes relating to education, health, food security, employment, housing, health services and economic resources in cities.

"We are seeking an integrated approach to mainstream climate change, gender equality, human rights and youth issues into all UN Habitat programmatic work"
Agenda 2030 and the New Urban Agenda

The 2030 Agenda calls for ‘a world of universal respect for equality and non-discrimination’ (para 8), reaffirming the responsibilities of all States to ‘respect, protect and promote human rights’ (para 19). The overriding message is to leave no one behind, to ensure that targets are met for all people and to reach the furthest behind first.

Furthermore, the New Urban Agenda highlights the shared vision of ‘cities for all, referring to the equal use and enjoyment of cities and human settlements, seeking to promote inclusivity and ensure that all inhabitants, of present and future generations, without discrimination of any kind’ (para 11). Throughout the Agenda there is consistent highlighting of the importance of gender, age and environmentally responsive policy-making and programming.

Mandate

UN Habitat is specifically mandated by the UN General Assembly to promote socially and environmentally sustainable towns and cities with the goal of providing adequate shelter for all. Further, as part of the UN family, UN Habitat is mandated to respect human rights, address gender and age inequality and tackle climate change, in all of its activities.

Each of the four Cross-Cutting Issues has been individually highlighted by the UN Habitat Governing Council, which calls upon the Agency to mainstream these issues throughout normative and operational work. Furthermore, UN Habitat’s Strategic Plan (2014-2019) reaffirms the four cross-cutting issues for the Agency. All four cross-cutting issues are to be ‘mainstreamed throughout the seven focus areas, ensuring that all policies, knowledge management tools and operational activities address these issues in their design and implementation’ (para. 45).
How Are These Issues Addressed?

**Project Support and the Marker System**

The primary aim of mainstreaming is to provide support and technical guidance to project managers. The Cross-Cutting teams are typically consulted during the project design phase, whereby they will provide input and guidance into project proposals. This is made mandatory at the project approval stage, where feedback is provided at the Project Advisory Group (PAG) based on the Cross-Cutting Markers.

UN Habitat has adopted a Marker system for each of the four cross-cutting issues, based upon the UN-SWAP Gender Marker. This system serves as both a capacity building tool and a quality assurance measure. It requires that every proposal must meet minimum requirements for mainstreaming each issue, before it can be approved by the Project Advisory Group (PAG). Each Marker rates projects 0 to 3, based on the depth to which they have integrated the relevant issue. The Markers are used to analyse the background analysis, theory of change, implementation strategy, Logical Framework and budget of every project.

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0

- No or little background analysis
- No plan for mainstreaming
- No activities, outputs or outcomes relating to cross-cutting issue

1

- Good contextual analysis of cross-cutting issue
- Simple plan for integration and addressing the issue
- Few concrete activities, outputs and outcomes

2/2a

- Thorough and in-depth contextual analysis
- Fully integrated and comprehensive plan for integration
- Clear activities, outputs and outcomes that will have strong impact

2b/3

- Project is specifically targeted at addressing this cross-cutting issue
- Strong outcomes and impacts on the issue
- Clear LogFrame, Budget and Theory of Change focused on the issue
The Cross-Cutting Marker System, which is unique within the UN System, is one of the key accountability tools UN Habitat uses to ensure inclusive and sustainable cities. The Markers require a rating to be given to all projects, indicating how much of UN Habitat’s work and financial resources are spent on projects and programmes that address the cross cutting issues. They are also used to track resources and report internally and externally, in particular to donors.

Since the introduction of the Markers, there has been a steady improvement in the percentage of UN Habitat projects that are meeting the requirements of all four Markers. This will be elaborated upon the Marker Chapter.

**Coordinated Mainstreaming**

To improve efficiency and effectiveness, the four cross-cutting issues work closely together in mainstreaming efforts. Based on monthly coordination meetings, the teams provide joint project feedback and support, internal capacity building efforts, advocacy and outreach, and reporting. This is carried out chiefly by a cross-cutting team that is employed equally by all four teams. Joint employees and regular meetings also ensure a unified voice in front of donors, evaluators and senior management.

**Internal Capacity Building**

The four cross-cutting issues have worked together to provide training workshops at regional and country level, in recent years. Thus far the trainings have been undertaken at Headquarters, ROAP, ROAS, Mozambique, Palestine, Ghana and Lebanon offices. These trainings focus on practical and concrete measures that can be taken to integrate the cross-cutting issues into projects. The trainings are provided to projects managers working at all levels.

"The Cross-Cutting Marker System, which is unique within the UN System, is one of the key accountability tools UN Habitat uses to ensure inclusive and sustainable cities"
Furthermore, the teams run regular ‘Brown Bag Lunches’ that serve to share best practice, lessons learnt and knowledge between different branches and regions. These provide staff an opportunity to learn from each other, as well as here from external experts and practitioners.

The cross-cutting issues have also developed an Induction Module for new employees which supplements the mandatory UN trainings and will be a part of a larger UN Habitat Induction programme.

**Advocacy and Outreach**

During major events, such as the Governing Council and World Urban Forum, the Cross-Cutting Issues run joint side-events and other activities. This is in order to highlight the importance of socially and environmentally sustainable cities and ensure that partners and stakeholders are aware and informed of the importance of integrating these issues into their policies and programmes. Advocacy at the global level also ensures that social and environmental issues in cities remain high on the priority list of the international community, and that urbanization is seen as a powerful tool to address these issues.

Furthermore, each individual team engages in advocacy and outreach on an individual basis. This will be elaborated within each individual section.

**Targeted Programming**

Each individual team also runs targeted programmes and projects at global, regional and national scales. These programmes and projects are specifically designed to address the relevant issue. These will be elaborated upon in each individual chapter.

**The teams run regular ‘Brown Bag Lunches’ that serve to share best practice, lessons learnt and knowledge between different regions**
The core objective of mainstreaming the cross-cutting issues is to ensure that all programmes and projects are integrating these issues throughout the Project Document, leading to integrated programme implementation.

Over the past biennium, there has been a clear improvement in the integration of cross-cutting issues into project development.

Best practice will be demonstrated through the use of case studies in this Report. These examples demonstrate UN Habitat Projects that are successfully integrating all four cross-cutting issues in their project development.
Cross-Cutting Collaboration

Cross-Cutting Marker Results

As explained above, each Cross-Cutting Issue has developed a Marker, to be applied to projects at the Project Advisory Group (PAG). This Marker System is unique within the UN System, and ensures that Cross-Cutting Issues are able to input into all UN Habitat projects.

2017 marks the first full calendar year where all four Markers have been applied to 100% of projects at the PAG – 110 projects this year – 41 full Project Documents and 69 Concept Notes. Since the introduction of the Markers in September 2015, there has been a steady improvement in results of projects. This is now reflected in positive results, whereby 60% of projects passed every Marker at first attempt. The remaining 40% passed once feedback and suggestions from Cross-Cutting Teams was included. Of these 60%, the majority scored a higher mark (2 or 3) on at least one Marker, whilst roughly a quarter scored highly on 2 or more Markers. This demonstrates that the Markers are not only implementing a ‘do no harm’ principle, but pushing projects to seriously address the cross-cutting issues, and integrate the issues throughout project work.
As towns and cities grow at unprecedented rates setting the social, political, cultural and environmental trends of the world, sustainable urbanization is one of the most pressing challenges facing the global community in the 21st century. In many cities, especially in developing countries, slum dwellers account for 50% of the population and have little or no access to shelter, water and sanitation.
Marker Review

Key facts

58.8% of 45 scored projects

Approved Project Documents that passed all 4 markers at first attempt

4 markers

4 issues

Total scored approved Project Documents

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An overview of number of approved Project Documents scored by issue

Scores: 0 1 2/2a 2b/3

Climate Change

- 8/10 0
- 14/13 1
- 14/13 2
- 15/14 3

Gender Equality

- 4/3 0
- 13/17 1
- 17/17 2
- 15/14 3

Human Rights

- 8/3 0
- 17/17 1
- 17/17 2
- 15/14 3

Youth

- 2/1 0
- 14/14 1
- 14/14 2
- 15/14 3

Approved Project Documents that scored 0, 1, 2, 3 on each marker, divided by quarter
(January-March, April-June, July-September, October-December)

Scores: 0 1 2/2a 2b/3

January - March

- Climate Change: 2/4/3/1
- Gender Equality: 2/4/4/0
- Human Rights: 1/7/4/2
- Youth: 6/3/1/1

April - June

- Climate Change: 3/2/1/0
- Gender Equality: 1/2/2/0
- Human Rights: 1/3/2/1
- Youth: 3/1/1/1

July - September

- Climate Change: 4/2/5/5
- Gender Equality: 4/12/0/0
- Human Rights: 1/7/8/1
- Youth: 5/4/7/1

October - December

- Climate Change: 1/5/5/2
- Gender Equality: 3/8/2/0
- Human Rights: 5/8/8/1
- Youth: 6/6/1/1
Number of approved Project Documents that scored 0, 1, 2, 3 on each marker divided by region and branch

Scores: 0 1 2/2a 2b/3

ROAF
Climate Change: 1 2 3 7 1
Gender Equality: 1 5 7 1
Human Rights: 2 6 3 3
Youth: 5 5 4 4

ROAP
Climate Change: 2 1 2
Gender Equality: 2 3
Human Rights: 1 2 2
Youth: 3 1 1

ROLAC
Climate Change: 1 3 3
Gender Equality: 7
Human Rights: 7
Youth: 2 5

ROAS
Climate Change: 6 2
Gender Equality: 4 4 3 1
Human Rights: 4 1 1
Youth: 3 3 1 1

UPDB
Climate Change: 1 1 2 2
Gender Equality: 1 2 3
Human Rights: 4 1 1
Youth: 1 2 3

ULLG
Climate Change: 1 2 2
Gender Equality: 2 2 1
Human Rights: 2 1 2
Youth: 1 2 2
In its work to improve human settlements, reduce poverty and increase safety in towns and cities as well as making them more sustainable and environmentally friendly, UN Habitat has found it essential to work with a wide range of partners.
Joint Cross-Cutting Activities 2017

Participatory Urban Planning in Saudi Arabia (Gender and Youth)

As part of the Future Saudi Cities Programme (FSCP) the Gender and Youth Units worked together to develop a week-long workshop for 30 young women and men from 17 cities in Saudi Arabia.

The Workshop focused on how young people can participate in urban planning and governance, using interactive tools such as community mapping and Minecraft. The week concluded with groups presenting their priorities to the national Ministry of Municipalities and Rural Affairs (MOMRA).

Engagement in UN Habitat Governing Council (ALL)

The Cross-Cutting Issues collaborated on a number of Side-Events at the UN Habitat Governing Council. Advocacy at the highest level ensures that social and environmental issues remain a priority for governments, and that stakeholders realise the potential for urbanization to be a positive force in these areas. The events included:

- Addressing Social Inequality and Climate Change Through Urbanization (ALL)
- Making Human Rights in Cities a Reality: Tools and Practical Examples (Human Rights and Youth)
- Combating Poverty and Promoting Peace through Job Creation - Opportunities for young men and women in African Cities (Youth and Gender)

Handicap International Policy Discussion on mainstreaming disabilities (Human Rights and Gender)

UN Habitat facilitated a session with representatives of persons with disabilities groups, from ten countries across East and West Africa. The discussion highlighted the distinct challenges that people with disabilities face in cities, particularly pertaining to mobility and access to basic services. This session also led to an increased focus on PWD within the agency, and improved collaboration with Handicap International.

Sexual and Reproductive Health Conference (Gender and Youth)

In February the Gender and Youth Units hosted a 2 Day Conference in Nairobi, in partnership with the UN Population Fund (UNFPA). Participants were invited from around Kenya to discuss and build capacity on Sexual and Reproductive rights of young people.
Management of SDG Indicator 11.3.2 (Gender, Youth, Human Rights)
The Cross-Cutting team has managed the SDG Indicator 11.3.2. The indicator is aiming to measure the structures available for civil society to engage in urban governance and planning. This work has involved multiple online expert group meetings, with academics, experts from civil society and statisticians.

This work has resulted in a significantly refined metadata documents, with a full methodology. The indicator is currently being considered for upgrading from Tier III to Tier II. This work will ultimately hold national and local governments accountable for engaging and including diverse groups of residents in urban planning and governance.

ECOSOC Youth Forum on the Indigenous young people and the New Urban Agenda (Youth and Human Rights)
The event brought together representatives of local authorities, urban youth organizations, UN Habitat Youth Unit, UN Habitat Youth Advisory Board, UNMGCY and Urban Youth Councils and universities to discuss the position of youth in the implementation of the New Urban Agenda; and the establishment of a World Urban Youth Councils Network as a permanent international youth mechanism to follow up on and monitor the implementation of the NUA in local, regional, national and global level.

A short summary of the discussions was then presented to the President of the General Assembly, the President of the Economic and Social Council and UN Habitat Governing Council.

Input into State of African Cities Report (ALL)
The State of African Cities Report will be the UN Habitat flagship report for 2018. The Cross-Cutting team sat on the board of reviewers and gave strong input into the report. Input included an improved focus on:

- Women’s empowerment
- Illegal forced evictions
- Demographic dividend
Engagement in Africa Forum for Urban Safety (Gender and Human Rights)

As in 2015, the teams participated in the Africa Forum on Urban Safety (AFUS), hosted by the city of Durban. The eThekwini Municipality invited the team to collaborate on various events, particularly focusing on the safety of women in African cities. These events will focus on the sharing of innovative, practical tools and experiences in improving safety in cities.

International Peace Day Showcase (Youth, Gender, Human Rights)

To mark International Peace Day, the units ran an interactive discussion for young women and men from the Nairobi informal settlement of Mathare. Panel discussions involved the Ambassadors of Colombia and South Sudan, the Deputy Executive Director of UN Habitat and young people from the Mathare Community. Discussions centred on engaging young people in their communities, and the benefits for peace-building and prosperity.

Marker Evaluation (ALL)

The Cross-Cutting teams undertook an internal evaluation of the Marker System. This evaluation consulted with various partners within UN Habitat, and compared the system with that of other UN agencies. The evaluation gives a positive review of the Marker System, noting its unique approach and comprehensive application.

UN Habitat is the lead agency within the UN system for coordinating activities in the field of cities and other human settlements
Covering a land area of 76,363 km² and an estimated 4.1 million people, Nigeria’s Niger state is ranked 18 out of 36 states in terms of population size.

Niger state has internally tried to guide its rapid urbanization by developing planning instruments such as the Urban Development Control Board Edict, as well as Master Plans for Minna and Suleja. However, these plans were hardly implemented due to inadequate capacity within the Ministries, Departments and Agencies in charge of urban development. The plans are outdated and irresponsible to the current planning needs of the state. The inappropriate urban frameworks to guide urban
development has made it difficult for the state government to respond to urbanization challenges and to take advantage of its proximity to the Nation’s capital (Abuja) and the opportunities that come with such a growing urban population.

The 1999 constitution of Nigeria, placed a concurrent legislative responsibility for the housing and urban development sector on the federal and state governments which promotes a top-down approach of policy making. With over 80 cities of a population of one million and above, over 60% of these urban residents live in informal and unplanned settlements which lack basic urban infrastructure and services. Top-down urban management system has marginalized Niger state residents in decision making, creating not only tenuous relations but also making enforcement weak, public accountability and transparency of the governance system poor.

This project will provide technical assistance to the Niger state government to implement the New Urban Agenda through the development of a state urban policy with integrated and territorial plans as well as other associated interventions. This project will address the issue of localization and implementation of the NUA by formulating policies and plans aimed at transforming the economic, social and environmental well-being of its rapidly growing urban centers by exploiting the potential linkages between urban and rural areas.

The project expects to achieve the following four accomplishments:

• A Niger State Urban Development Policy formulated
• Integrated Regional Development Plans for Minna and Suleja Emirates prepared
• Capacity Development and Peer to Peer Learning undertaken to enhance the performance of selected stakeholders in Niger state
• Technical support provided to Niger state on various projects

The project follows an integrative approach and addresses all four cross-cutting issues in an appropriate manner. It considers environmental sustainability and climate change by linking climate change and the environment to relevant urban issues and policies seeking a transformative impact promoting green economic activities. It further follows a human rights based approach identifying a range of stakeholders, duty-bearers and right-holders, analyzing the existing capacity gaps and designing responsive capacity building activities.

Additionally it aims to develop a bottom-up and stakeholders-driven policy, planning and development system in towns and cities in Niger state, with particular reference to young people and women. Sex- and age-disaggregated data will be collected to establish a gender and youth baseline analysis, identifying challenges and opportunities. It further aims to implement extensive capacity building programmes to harness the potential of its stakeholders and politically and economically empower marginalized groups. Special training will be provided for young people to equip them with useful skills in urban planning and development. The above mentioned measurements ensure that the project follows a holistic approach addressing all four cross-cutting issues.
Two thirds of the kingdom’s population is under the age of 29 and although they make up a significant proportion of those living in cities, they do not have equal representation in urban planning and management. As such, their needs and rights are not equally considered in decision-making.
In order to address this, young men and women must be supported to engage in urban governance and provided with relevant knowledge and skills to have a meaningful impact in urban planning. Furthermore, they must be introduced to different path of engagement utilizing appropriate tools and methods.

UN Habitat has developed with its partners several tools and methodologies in relation to participatory planning and governance. The overall objective of the conducted training programme was to enhance the ability of young men and women to engage in the urban development process, whilst sensitising local and national authorities to engage and work with youth. 28 youths attended the training, amongst them 10 were women.

UN Habitat further introduced tools and methods for engaging in urban development to the participants. After completing the training, participants were able to approach their regional governments in a formal and appropriate manner, whilst representing their communities, influencing the decision making process.

“28 youths attended the training, amongst them 10 were women”
Although cities occupy 2% of the world’s land, they produce 70% of greenhouse gas emissions.
Introduction

The effects of urbanization and climate change are converging in dangerous ways. Cities are major contributors to climate change: despite covering less than 2 per cent of the earth’s surface, cities consume 78 per cent of the world’s energy and produce more than 60 per cent of all carbon dioxide and significant amounts of other greenhouse gas emissions. At the same time, cities and towns are heavily vulnerable to climate change. Hundreds of millions of people in urban areas across the world will be affected by rising sea levels, increased precipitation, inland floods, droughts, landslides, more frequent and stronger cyclones and storms, and periods of more extreme heat and cold.
In fact, many major coastal cities with populations of more than 10 million people are already under threat. Climate change may also negatively impact infrastructure and worsen access to basic urban services and quality of life in cities. In addition, most of the vital economic and social infrastructure, government facilities, and assets are located in cities. The most affected populations are the urban poor, who tend to live along river banks, on hillsides and slopes prone to landslides, near polluted grounds, on decertified land, in unstable structures vulnerable to earthquakes, and along waterfronts in coastal areas.

Despite these risks, many cities have not yet addressed climate change. The reasons include a lack of relevant city policies and action plans; existence of regulations on urban planning and environment which have not been adjusted to manage climate change; slow response to climate disasters due to lack of capacity and resources; and lack of public awareness on climate variability and climate change-induced hazard mitigation.

In 2017, the Paris Agreement of COP21 (Conference of Parties) entered into force on November 4. The agreement marks a change in direction, toward a new world. It confirms the target of keeping the rise of temperature below 2°C. Specifically the agreement establishes that the Member States should aim for 1.5°C, to protect island states, which are most threatened by the rise in sea levels. The agreement acknowledges that $100 billion (in loans and donations) will need to be raised each year from 2020 to finance projects that enable countries to adapt to the impacts of climate change or reduce greenhouse gas emissions.

**International Frameworks**

**UNFCCC**
The United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC) is an international environmental treaty established in 1992 as a response to stabilize greenhouse gas concentrations in the atmosphere at a level that will prevent dangerous human interference with the climate system. The main task of the secretariat was to support intergovernmental climate change negotiations. The largest and most important is the COP held annually and hosted alternately by the regional groups.

**Paris Agreement on Climate Change**
The Paris Agreement is an agreement with the framework of the UNFCCC agreed upon at COP21 in Paris. It deals with greenhouse gas emissions mitigation, climate change adaptation and climate financing starting in the year 2020.
SDG 11.b

SDG Target 11.b calls for by 2020, substantially increase the number of cities and human settlements adopting and implementing integrated policies and plans towards inclusion, resource efficiency, mitigation and adaptation to climate change, resilience to disasters, and develop and implement, in line with the Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction 2015-2030, holistic disaster risk management at all levels.

Structure and Mandate

UN Habitat’s Strategic Plan (2014-2019) reaffirms climate change as one of four cross-cutting issues for the Agency. All four cross-cutting issues are to be “mainstreamed throughout the seven focus areas, ensuring that all policies, knowledge management tools and operational activities address these issues in their design and implementation” (para. 45). At the same time the Strategic Plan indicates that climate change is also to be addressed through “Issue-specific projects [that] will seek to fill identified gaps in the field and will be located in the most appropriate focus area” (para. 38). Climate change as a substantive topic falls within Sub-programme 2: Urban Planning and Design, with an Expected Accomplishment as follows:

Expected accomplishment 2.3: Improved policies, plans and strategies that contribute to the mitigation of and adaptation to climate change adopted by partner city, regional and national authorities.

Narrative of results for EA 2.3

1. Briefly describe the change/improvement in the policies, plans and strategies contributing to mitigation and adaptation to climate change adopted by partner city, national and regional authorities as of end of 2017 due to the contribution of UN Habitat and partners.
2. Name the partner city, national and regional authorities that have adopted and implemented policies, plans or strategies that contribute to climate change mitigation and adaptation, and for each state the observed change.
3. Indicate how cross-cutting issues of gender equality, human rights, climate change and youth were mainstreamed in your work.
4. Name the partners who have collaborated with UN Habitat in this EA.
5. What was the most significant change realized in 2017 in this area of work to which UN Habitat and partners contributed? You may use a success story to illustrate this achievement.
If urban economic opportunities do not keep pace with the influx of job seekers, urban poverty can have dire results for the health and well-being of large shares of the population. Governments are presented with a set of economic and financial challenges in dealing with growing urban populations.
Key Unit Activities

Advocacy

COP23 - 2017 United Nations Climate Change Conference
UN Habitat’s contribution to UNFCCC’s Nairobi Work Programme
In 2017 UN Habitat made a major contribution to UN Framework Convention on Climate Change’s (UNFCCC’s) Nairobi Work Programme’s 2017 stock-take of “human settlements and adaptation”. This culminated with the UN Habitat DED providing the keynote address at the NWP’s 11th Focal Point Forum at the UNFCCC’s 23rd Conference of Parties (COP-23).

Launch of “Planners for Climate Action”
At COP-23, together with global, regional and national associations representing tens of thousands of planning professionals and planning educators, UN Habitat launched a new cooperative initiative: ‘Planners for Climate Action’, a new multi-stakeholder initiative under the Marrakesh Partnership for Global Climate Action. This new initiative will help ensure urban and regional planners can play a strong role in advancing global climate and sustainability goals. It will improve urban and regional planning practice and planning education.

Global Projects

Developing and Financing City Climate Action Plans
Funded by Swedish International Development Cooperation Agency (Sida), this project aims to support local authorities that signed up to the Compact of Mayors to realise their commitments. In 2017 UN Habitat supported Moroni, in the Comoros, and Nacala, in Mozambique in developing Greenhouse Gas Inventory.

By mid-2017 both Moroni and Nacala had completed their baseline emission studies. Then later in 2017 both cities were ‘badged’ by a third-party reviewer. This confirmed that both cities had fully complied with all of their Year 1 commitments – an achievement that to date has eluded a number of other, much larger cities in the Global Covenant.

At the same time UN Habitat has been sharing the lessons gleaned from this effort through the Founders’ Council of the Global Covenant of Mayors and its Technical Working Groups. This is helping to inform GCoM policies, to ensure that even secondary cities in LDCs can aspire to join the Global Covenant and comply with its commitments.
Planning for Improved Air Quality in Urban Areas

Sponsored by the Government of Norway, this project is to improve urban air quality in cities in developing countries, with resulting benefits to residents. In 2017 together with Clean Air Asia, UN Habitat has begun to identify gaps in the field of urban air quality management, in areas where UN Habitat had comparative advantage, where further normative guidance is needed. These include guidance on urban design to reduce exposure of vulnerable urban populations to air pollution. UN Habitat would help Iloilo City, the Philippines to carry out part of the Mayor’s award-winning “Liveable City” vision for Iloilo City by making one transportation corridor much more pedestrian- and bicycle-friendly. At the same time the project is planned to support sensitization of African Mayors regarding the Breathe Life Campaign in 2018.

Pro-Poor Planning for Climate Resilience of Marginalized Neighborhoods

Duration: August 2016 – December 2019

Merging the work of its Cities and Climate Change Initiative (CCCI) and Participatory Slum Upgrading Program (PSUP) in addressing the effects of climate change and urban poverty, UN Habitat has initiated the Pro-Poor Planning Project within the Asia-Pacific, African, Caribbean and Pacific (ACP) region. Pilot activities are under way in Lami (Fiji), Honiara (Solomon Islands), Ouagadougou (Burkina Faso), Bamenda (Cameroon) and Montego Bay (Jamaica). This project is to improve climate resilience in selected marginalized neighborhoods, within the context of ongoing city-wide climate resilience and resilience planning. For details on activities in two of those locales please see below.

• Adaptation Planning in the City of Honiara, Solomon Islands

In 2017 assistance reached further down, to community based adaptation in three highly vulnerable informal communities: Koa Hill, Ontong Java, and Vara Creek. UN Habitat trained local officials, community representatives and partners in the use of tablets, drones and geographic information systems to prepare geo-referenced, ortho-rectified maps of these communities. At the same time, more detailed assessments of environmental risks, as well as of ecosystem based approaches to adaptation, were underway. Community-based adaptation will be fully integrated into city-wide planning – another innovative feature of the effort.

• Community-driven resilience planning in informal settlements, Fiji

Building on the agency’s country wide informal settlements analysis and
supporting the government’s informal settlements upgrading strategy, UN Habitat with the Ministry of Local Government, Housing and Environment and Lami Town Council agreed to develop an integrated informal settlements upgrading and resilience approach. Two informal settlements in Lami, a town which had developed a climate change vulnerability assessment with the support of UN Habitat in 2014, were selected. In-depth vulnerability assessments were conducted using a combination of drone images, household-level surveys, engineering assessments and most importantly in-depth community consultations which led to the development of initial action plans. The Adaptation Fund supported project will also support the implementation of this plan.

**Accelerating climate action through the promotion of Urban Low Emission Development Strategies (Urban-LEDS II)**

Funded by the European Commission, UN Habitat and ICLEI started Urban-LEDS II project in 2017 and will run through 2021. It has the objective of contribute to the reduction of greenhouse gas emissions by the promotion of Urban Low Emission Development Strategies (Urban LEDS) in emerging economies (Brazil, Colombia, India, Indonesia and South Africa), and Least Developed Countries (Bangladesh, Lao PDR and Rwanda) by offering selected local governments a comprehensive methodological framework (ICLEI’s Green Climate Cities methodology) to integrate low-carbon strategies into all sectors of urban planning and development. At the same time the project supports improved multi-level governance. This objective is aligned with the implementation of the Paris Agreement under the UNFCCC.

**Rapid Planning – Sustainable Infrastructure and Environmental and Resource Management for Highly Dynamic Metropolises**

The “Rapid Planning” project is a joined research project funded by the German Federal Ministry for Education and Research (BMBF). It is being implemented by a consortium of 11 universities and research institutions and UN Habitat and seeks to develop and test a rapid trans-sectoral planning methodology for urban supply and disposal infrastructure planning in rapidly growing and/or highly dynamic cities.

The project has the duration of 5 years. Rapid Planning also represents an approach to urban resource management and includes a qualitative and quantitative description of the urban metabolism (featuring material and energy streams associated to supply and disposal infrastructure and urban agriculture). Rapid Planning is mainly targeting those global regions that are facing the challenge of rapid urbanization. The Rapid Planning approach is anticipated to achieve significant reductions in GHG emissions
from the related sectors, or at least to clearly depict the implications in terms of GHG emission arising from different planning scenarios. The project midterm conference was held in Nairobi in September.

Regional Projects

**Mainstreaming Climate Change into urban related policies in six countries in the Asia and Pacific Region**

This regional project supports six countries in the Asia-Pacific region (Bangladesh, Myanmar, Republic of the Philippines, Solomon Islands, Sri Lanka, Viet Nam) with policy analysis and policy review emphasizing the integration of climate change into national urban policies. In 2017 the policy review was completed; one national Urban Policy was approved (Philippines) and one was finalized (Solomon Islands). Two expert group meetings bringing together participants of the project countries as well as other regional and international experts reviewed the experiences which are being developed into a policy guide, supplementary tools and a training package.

**Vertical Integration of Low Emission Development Strategies in the Philippines and Viet Nam**

The V-LED Project implementation in the Philippines and Vietnam, supported by the International Climate Initiative (IKI) of the German Federal Ministry for the Environment, Nature Conservation, Building, and Nuclear Safety (BMUB), promotes effective multi-level governance for climate change actions.

For 2017, V-LED project in the Philippines successfully advocated for the integration of climate change adaptation and mitigation in key local government unit (LGU) plans by using the local climate change action plan (LCCAP) formulation process as entry point. UN Habitat assisted the Department of Interior and Local Government-Local Government Academy (DILG-LGA) in developing the Enhanced LCCAP Guidebook 3, which introduced the concept of mitigation and provided guidance to local governments in developing local Low Emission Development strategies to ensure socio-economic resilience and by harnessing emission reduction potentials.

A total of 328 LCCAP Coaches from state universities and colleges, learning research institutions, and local and national government nationwide were trained on the Enhanced LCCAP Guidebook 3. Work in 2017 also delivered on promoting peer-to-peer learning through the
conduct of a series of good practice exchanges (GPEs) on greenhouse gas
data collection and management for 23 local government units in two
provinces—Cavite and Negros Oriental. This was implemented to
support the CCC’s program on coaching and mentoring LGUs in
developing GHG inventories and management plan in view of the revised
LCCAP guidelines.

In Vietnam, V-LED implementation conducted Good Practice Exchange
(GPE) on “Technological solutions in promoting low emission development
and urban resilience for 3 Cities”. The GPE facilitated the sharing of
applied concepts and technologies that may support local climate action
plans and targets. Through the said GPE, Can Tho City have adapted and
applied the underground rainwater harvesting tank development as
shared by Daiken company from the learning acquired during activity.
V-LED in Vietnam likewise conducted dialogue events on as part
of the project’s capacity building interventions for national and local
authorities towards pursuing and promoting climate resilient low-
emission development. These events were organized in partnership
through partnerships with Department of Climate Change (under
MONRE), Ministry of Consultation (MOC), and Ministry of Science and
Technology (MOST).

Country Projects

**Adaptation Fund projects in Asia-Pacific countries**

UN Habitat was accredited by Adaptation Fund in 2015. UN Habitat’s first
AF project is:

- ‘Enhancing the climate and disaster resilience of the most
  vulnerable rural and emerging urban human settlements
  in Lao PDR’.

This project’s main objective is to enhance the climate and disaster
resilience of the most vulnerable rural and emerging urban human
settlements in Southern Lao PDR by increasing sustainable access to basic
infrastructure systems and services, emphasizing resilience to storms,
floods, droughts, landslides and disease outbreaks.

In 2017 vulnerability assessments of 189 towns and villages as well as
the 8 districts and 3 Provinces were conducted, and initial activities
around developing climate change action plans were conducted. This
included providing training to 30 sub-national officials on planning for
climate change.
In 2017 two projects submitted by UN Habitat were approved by the Adaptation Fund, and will be implemented from 2018:

- **Enhancing urban resilience to climate change impacts and natural disasters: Honiara**
  The overarching goal of this project is to enhance the resilience of Honiara and its inhabitants to current and future climate impacts and natural disasters, with a particular focus on pro-poor adaptation actions that involve and benefit the most vulnerable communities.

- **Increasing the resilience of informal urban settlements in Fiji that are highly vulnerable to climate change and disaster risks**
  The project focuses on informal settlements across four urban areas and towns in Fiji: Lautoka, Sigatoka, Nadi and Lami. The overall objective of the project is to increase the resilience of informal urban settlements in Fiji that are highly vulnerable to climate change and disaster risks.

**Myanmar Climate Change Alliance**

In 2017 under Myanmar Climate Change Alliance program, UN Habitat finalized the English version of the Myanmar national climate change policy (MNCCP) and Myanmar climate change strategy and action plan (MCCSAP), and translation in Myanmar language is ongoing. On 01st June 2017, National Environmental Conservation and Climate Change Committee (NECCCC) decided to adopt MNCCP and MCCSAP for submission to Union Cabinet for approval once translation in national language is cleared by authorities.

Prioritization of activities in sectoral action plan of MCCSAP was done for submission to the Ministry of Planning and Finance for incorporation into the budget for Myanmar’s fiscal year 2018. Climate change vulnerability assessment was finalized in Labutta (Delta region) and Pakoku (Dry Zone) townships while on demand of Ministry of Natural Resource and Environment Conservation. Vulnerability assessment of 3rd township in Hakka (Hilly region) was initiated with International Centre for Integrated Mountain Development.
Case Study

Increasing the resilience of informal urban settlements that are highly vulnerable to climate change and disaster risks, Fiji

Fiji faces some of the geographic and structural challenges common to other smaller Pacific island countries, including high levels of vulnerability to external shocks and natural disasters such as cyclones, extreme rainfall, flooding, droughts and temperature extremes as well as sea-level rise.

Between 1980 and 2015, disaster events in Fiji impacted around 40,000 people each year and have resulted in average annual economic damage of around US$16 million which is expected to rise to an
annual average of US$85 million in losses due to tropical cyclones and earthquakes.

Furthermore, since 2007, Fiji is starting to feel the effects of the global process of rapid urbanization with over half of Fiji’s population living in urban areas and a faster growing urban population compared to its rural counterpart. This development forces the government to focus on challenges related to growth, such as poverty and unemployment, environmental risks, climate change and disaster risks, land administration and infrastructure provision and maintenance.

Additionally, a significant increase in the number and density of informal settlements has been registered in many cities. For instance, whilst the Greater Urban Management Plan recorded 50 informal settlements in the Greater Suva Urban Area in 2006, this number had risen to over 100 by 2011. Altogether UN Habitat has mapped 171 informal settlements for the whole country, making up approximately 20% of the urban population. Since many such settlements are located in highly vulnerable areas, such as riverbanks and pockets of coastal land, its residents are of particular concern.

Adding to this initial vulnerability is the mostly temporary housing structure of these settlements. Based on a 2015 survey of 31 informal settlements, only 10% of houses were concrete, and the

There are 171 informal settlements for the whole country, making up 20% of the urban population.
remaining 90% were timber frame and tin, iron of varying construction quality and, in many cases, built using recycled materials. The project aims to make Fiji’s informal settlements more resilient against climate change and disaster risks to mitigate the negative effects of climate change on the most vulnerable members of society.

The project includes following components to achieve its objectives:

1. **National and city-wide institutional strengthening for enhanced local climate response**
   - Reducing vulnerability at the city-level to climate-related hazards and threats with a particular view to community level resilience.

2. **Local (community/informal settlement) capacity development for resilience building**
   - Strengthening awareness and ownership of adaptation and climate risk reduction processes and capacity.

3. **Enhancing resilience of community level physical, natural and socio-economic assets/ ecosystems**
   - Increasing adaptive capacity of informal settlements communities through human settlements interventions.
   - Increasing adaptive capacities of informal settlements communities though ecosystem based adaptation.

4. **Awareness raising, knowledge management and Communication**
   - Project implementation is to be fully transparent. All stakeholders will be informed of products and results and have access to these for replication.

The project’s main outputs are climate change action plans for the participating cities which include actions to mitigate the effects of climate change and build resilience. It further aims to create disaster risk maps/ climate change tools tailored to the country’s specific needs and train stakeholders in climate change mitigation practices.

Moreover, the project promotes the inclusion of all, recognizing youth, women and the marginalized as stakeholders, aims to enhance their participation on all levels and includes a risk assessment of vulnerable groups. The project follows a participatory approach when designing activities/ plans/ monitoring considering ethnic diversities promoting community governance. It further concentrates on the upgrading of informal settlements in high risk peri-urban areas which are generally inhabited by the most vulnerable, enhancing their resilience.

Furthermore, it offers economic and employment training particularly targeting youth and women and specifically includes a gender and youth inclusion assessment. In addition, project partners will be sensitized to gender issues and the Logical Framework will include gender sensitive targets. Youth are also recognized as important stakeholders and will be represented throughout all stages of the project. The project integrates all four cross-cutting issues in a very detailed manner and its selected activities offer a balanced approach.
Mindsets, policies, and approaches towards urbanization need to change in order for the growth of cities and urban areas to be turned into opportunities that will leave nobody behind. UN Habitat, the United Nations programme for human settlements, is at the helm of that change, assuming a natural leadership and catalytic role in urban matters.
Case Study

Belmopan Master Plan project, Belize

The new Master Plan for Belmopan was launched by UN Habitat at the Seventh Caribbean Urban Forum 2017, giving response to the important urban challenges the capital city of Belize is facing. In this context, planning for Belmopan’s future development is key to the city’s ability to grow in a sustainable forward oriented manner.
The Urban Planning and Design Lab and the Cities and Climate Change Initiative (CCCI), together with Belmopan’s City Council, worked during 2016-2017 on guidelines for the sustainable development of the city. As a result of this collaboration the new plan was developed, setting an example on how a master plan based on a blue-green network can become the catalytic strategy towards a more resilient, economically vibrant, low-carbon and socially active city.

Giving the common challenges faced in the Caribbean Region, the Belmopan project exemplifies the potential to further integrate green and blue infrastructure and the surrounding natural systems into the built environment, in order to address multiple challenges of sustainable development and climate change.

"The new plan is an example on how a master plan based on a blue-green network can become the catalytic strategy towards a more resilient, economically vibrant, low-carbon and socially active city"
Case Study

Building Climate Resiliency through urban plans and designs, Philippines

This project was launched in May 2017 and is being implemented with the support of the International Climate Initiative (IKI) of the German Federal Ministry for the Environment, Nature Conservation, Building, and Nuclear Safety (BMUB). Five cities were identified as pilot-partner cities.
The five cities namely Angeles, Cagayan de Oro, Legazpi, Ormoc, and Tagum, have all signed a commitment to work with UN Habitat and the government for the project.

As a preliminary training component of the project, the first national level training workshop on Climate Resilient Urban Planning and Design was conducted for government partner agencies. It increased participants’ knowledge on the different concepts and tools on urban planning and design in the context of climate change, understanding the urban systems, critiquing the current urban planning process of the Comprehensive Land Use Plans (CLUPs) and the Comprehensive Development Plans (CDPs), as well as the formulation of recommendations on how to identify and design the urban adaptation projects at the city level. This capacity building activity was joined by at least 35 technical staff from the national agency partners (HLURB, HUDCC, NEDA, CCC, LCP, DILG).

The first series of city level training workshops on climate resilient urban planning and design was conducted in all five partner cities from October to November 2017. This series of city workshops was able to clarify issues on climate change in the midst of the cities' respective rapid urbanization and local development challenges.

In 2017, awareness-raising initiatives for the project include the development and dissemination of advocacy materials such as project briefs, web stories, and IKI newsletter submissions; participation in outreach events such as the national government’s Climate Change Week; coordination with media for event coverage; the enhancement of existing social media platforms; and the ongoing development of the project website and online knowledge platform.

"Five cities namely Angeles, Cagayan de Oro, Legazpi, Ormoc, and Tagum, have all signed a commitment to work with UN Habitat and the government for the project"
Case Study

Mainstreaming Climate Resilience into Development Planning: Gender and M&E mainstreaming at subnational level, Cambodia

Cambodia is one of the countries selected worldwide for the Pilot Program for Climate Resilience to demonstrate ways in integrating climate risk and resilience into development planning. Cambodia’s high vulnerability to climate change is attributed to its low adaptive capacity and high reliance on climate-sensitive sectors such as water resources and agriculture.
UN Habitat with the partnership with Save the Earth Cambodia and Forum Syed with funding facility of Asian Development Bank supports the Ministry of Planning, Ministry of Women’s Affairs, and National Committee for Sub-national Democratic Development to mainstream climate concerns into development planning at sub-national levels, integrate gender considerations in climate change adaptation, and building capacity on monitoring, reporting, and evaluating the effectiveness of adaptation investments.

The Project intends to produce 12 Knowledge products, 12 national level trainings and conduct public awareness campaigns on gender responsive and climate change issues through women’s groups. Gender-responsive and gender-equitable adaptation pilots in selected provinces will be implemented.

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The Project intends to produce 12 Knowledge products, 12 national level trainings and conduct public awareness campaigns on gender responsive and climate change issues through women’s groups

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Case Study

Myanmar Climate Change Alliance

The Myanmar Climate Change Alliance (MCCA) was launched in 2013 with the support of the Global Climate Change Alliance (GCCA) funded by European Union and is being implemented by UN Habitat and UN Environment in close cooperation with Ministry of Natural Resource and Environment Conservation (MoNREC), Government of Myanmar.
The overall objective of MCCA is to mainstream climate change into the Myanmar policy development and reform agenda. Under MCCA program, UN Habitat and UN Environment are supporting MoNREC in developing Myanmar national climate change policy (MNCCP) and Myanmar climate change strategy and action plan (MCCSAP), raising awareness and building capacity of range of stakeholder such as policy makers, line ministries, media professionals, civil society, private sector and youths. Tools and methodologies for climate change vulnerability and risk assessment were developed and tested at township level to develop the local level adaption and resilience plan.

In 2017 UN Habitat finalized the English version of the MNCCP and MCCSAP and translation in Myanmar language is ongoing. On 01st June 2017, National Environmental Conservation and Climate Change Committee (NECCCC) decided to adopt MNCCP and MCCSAP for submission to Union Cabinet for approval once translation in national language is cleared by authorities. Prioritization of activities in sectoral action plan of MCCSAP was done for submission to the Ministry of Planning and Finance for incorporation into the budget for Myanmar’s fiscal year 2018.

Climate change vulnerability assessment was finalized in Labutta (Delta region) and Pakoku (Dry Zone) townships while on demand of MoNREC, vulnerability assessment (VA) of 3rd township in Hakka (Hilly region) was initiated with ICIMOD. Using assessment result, social sustainability plans were prepared followed by detailed local level adaptation plans in both the townships and activities were prioritized to build the resilience and local level implementation started in 2017.

VA tool box (with 7 days course, Trainer’ Manual, Assessment Formulation Manual, and Practitioners Handbooks) was developed to replicate the methodology at national level and trainings were provided at national disaster management training centre located in Hinthada. Other capacity building support such as carpenters training, journalist training, cross learning visit of government officials in Vietnam to mainstream climate change into national budgeting process were conducted and support to Ministry of Construction in developing the low cost climate resilient public housing design models was also initiated. Various publication and documentary “Warmer Days: Myanmar in the age of Climate Change” were also produced.

MCCA’s objective: mainstream climate change into Myanmar’s policy and reform agenda
We at UN Habitat are empowering women through the facilitation of gender related projects and activities with a special focus on the areas of equal accessibility, public transport and safety.
Introduction

Rapid and unplanned urbanization has established a challenge to national and local governments in their role to develop economically fair and vibrant, inclusive, safe cities. In this process of fast urbanization, failure to fully mainstream gender equality into urban planning, legislation and economic development is hindering the inclusiveness of cities and preventing the full integration of women and girls in the economic, social, political and cultural life of cities.

Indeed, gender inequalities, as a result of socio-cultural norms and unconscious biases, persist; causing women and girls to benefit less from urbanization and urban spaces than men and boys. In fact, women and girls in cities face a range of specific barriers and vulnerabilities based on gender inequalities: gender based violence, feminization of poverty, unpaid and low employment,
limited control over housing, land and property rights (HLP), glass ceiling and sexual harassment at workplace, safety issues in public spaces and access to transportation, unequal participation in public and private decision-making processes; as well as, barriers to education, housing and basic services.

In this current process of the urbanization of poverty, failure to mainstream gender equality into urban planning, land and legislation, finance and economic development hinders the inclusiveness of cities. In order to empower women and girls and improve the well-being of all persons in the city, it is paramount to work toward promoting inclusive cities with spaces that welcome and engage women and girls.

International Frameworks

There are a number of international agreements pertaining to gender equality and women’s empowerment. Currently, the most prominent are:

- **Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women (CEDAW) 1979**
- **Declaration of Violence Against Women (DEVAW) 1993**
- **Beijing Platform for Action (1995)**
- **SDG 5: achieve gender equality and empower all women and girls**
- **Goal 11: make cities and human settlements inclusive, safe, resilient and sustainable, specifically targets: 11.1, 11.2, 11.5, 11.7, and 11.a**
- **NUA advocates the inclusion of women in urban decision-making, and promotes gender responsive financing, safety, basic services and urban planning**

Structure and Mandate

Gender mainstreaming and women’s empowerment fall within the docket of the Deputy Executive Director, and are implemented, at a normative level, by the Gender Equality Unit (GEU), housed in Programme Division. UN Habitat’s Strategic Plan 2014-2019 outlines that Gender Equality is a cross-cutting issue that is to be mainstream across the Agency’s work. The GEU is also the site of the Secretariat for The Advisory Group on Gender Issues (AGGI), an independent advisory body to the Executive Director.


- **Programme**: technical and normative assistance provided to national, regional and local authorities and other stakeholders, so that their policies, plans and
programmes achieve clearly articulated, time-bound and measurable gender equality and women’s empowerment results in the areas of UN Habitat’s strategic priorities, identified on the basis of gender analysis, assessed against clearly defined baseline data disaggregated by sex and age.

- **Progress towards internal gender parity at all levels, and particularly at the P5 levels and above clearly demonstrated, according to the defined United Nations formula, as an objective indicator of organizational commitment to gender equality and women’s rights, and of an organizational culture with the capacity to advance them.**

- **Internal institutional arrangements** that are fully conducive to the above two outputs increasingly in place, in progressive compliance with the performance standards set out in the System-Wide Action Plan for Gender Equality and The Empowerment of Women (UN SWAP).

At the normative level and in order to meet with output (i), UN Habitat relies on a network of the Gender Focal Points (GFPs), at Headquarters, Regional Offices, and Country Offices, who promote the incorporation of gender-responsive methodologies into UN Habitat’s programmes and projects. Further, the Habitat University Network Initiative (UNI) runs a thematic hub on gender hosted by the National University of Cordoba, Argentina, led by AGGI vice-chair, Professor Ana Falú. The Hub works to disseminate and exchange processes and tools in order to deliver gender-responsive sustainable urban development.

At present, the Agency continues to work toward output (ii) and has successfully reached broad internal gender parity levels within the Agency. However, gender parity remains to be met at all general service and professional levels, in particular the P4 and P5 levels. The new Secretary-General has highlighted gender parity as a high personal priority. The UN Habitat Senior Management Board has recently approved the Gender Parity Strategy, up to 2025. This strategy aims to improve opportunities for women and therefore improve parity at the higher professional levels within the agency.

**Key Unit Activities**

![Map of Afghanistan with a red marker indicating Kabul]

**2nd National Conference on Safer Cities (Afghanistan)**

The Gender Unit ran a series of workshops with different stakeholders at the Afghan Cities Conference. These primary workshop was for community leaders from across the country, highlighting the benefits of inclusive community participation and women’s empowerment.

The team also ran workshops with Mayors from across the country, the Kabul Local Government and UN Habitat staff from all provinces.
Building Sustainable Communities: Leadership, Gender, and the Environment (Israel)
In partnership with UN-Environment and the MASHAV - Israel’s Agency for International Development Cooperation – UN Habitat gave a series of Workshops to grassroots participants from across the globe. The workshops focused on the importance of equal access for women to public space, public transport and urban governance, and how to improve gender equality in these areas.

International Conference on Canadian, Chinese and African Sustainable Urban Development (Cameroon)
At the 2nd ICCCASU Conference, the Gender Unit ran a 3-hour workshop on gender-responsive urban planning and governance. The participants were predominantly from local and national authorities. The workshop taught participants to evaluate how their policies and programmes impact on men and women differently, and how they can be used to promote gender equality.

CSW61 (USA)
The annual Commission on the Status of Women, held in New York, was focused on the theme of ‘Women’s economic empowerment in the changing world of work.’ UN Habitat highlighted the importance of improving safety for women to be able to access work, women’s role in the New Urban Agenda, and achieving cities for all.

Plan International ‘Safer Cities for Girls’ launch (Kenya)
UN Habitat participated in the Plan International ‘Safer Cities for Girls’ programme launch in Nairobi. The programme builds capacity of local young men and women to work with local authorities and improve safety in their communities.

EGM on Engendering National Urban Policies (France)
As part of the follow-up to Habitat III, and in parallel to the Second International Conference on National Urban Policy in Paris in May, the Gender Unit worked with the National Urban Policy team to run an Expert Group Meeting on Engendering National Urban Policies. The EGM included academics, grassroots organisations, international NGOs, local government representatives and UN system partners. The EGM produced guidelines for the engendering of NUPs, which are currently being developed into a Guide for national authorities developing NUPs.
City Resilience Profiling Programme (Spain)

On secondment to the City Resilience Profiling Programme (CRPP) the Gender Unit developed gender-responsive indicators for the CRPP, and worked closely with the team to ensure effective measurement and sex-disaggregated data collection.

Women and girls in cities will face a range of specific barriers and vulnerabilities in the form of gender based discrimination: gender inequality, violence against women, poverty, unpaid care-work, limited control over assets, unequal participation in public and private decision-making; as well as, barriers to education, employment, housing and basic services
Case Study

Support to the sustainable development of the Hawassa city cluster, Ethiopia

Ethiopia is witnessing the rapid transformation of its urban landscape as a result of high levels of economic activity. Meanwhile, the urban population is showing one of the highest annual growth rates in sub-Saharan Africa.

The country’s first large-scale industrial park has been recently established in Hawassa, the fastest growing city countrywide, with a population of 350,000 people and a growth rate of 4%. The Industrial Park Development Corporation (IPDC) opened the first phase of the Hawassa Industrial Park.
Park (HIP) in July 2016. Since most future workers will come from the region surrounding Hawassa, the housing demand will increase exponentially, with 6,000-7,000 workers expected each year and 35,000-40,000 workers expected by 2021. Hence the key issues to be addressed mainly concern the urban (and cluster-regional) planning of the city under this new industrial scenario, as well as the imminent and future housing and solid waste management challenges.

The overall goal of this project is to support the sustainable development of the Hawassa city cluster by providing technical assistance to improve and steer the on-going rapid urban growth of the city triggered by the recent operationalization of the HIP, in order to contribute to a more sustainable structural, social and economic transformation of the city, its surrounding areas and the region.

The specific objective is to provide on-the-job technical assistance, progressively build the required capacity of the Hawassa City Government and strengthen the coordination with the HIP, IDPC, the regional government and other concerned stakeholders to cope with the urbanisation impacts of the industrial park, with focus on spatial/urban planning, waste management and housing, at the city cluster scale.

The project integrates all four cross-cutting issues and includes strategies for each issue. For climate change, the project has considered the environmental threats due to industrial park and rapid urbanization, such as the risk of degradation of the lake and the destruction of ecosystem. The project has also analyzed the impact of climate change on agricultural activities and urban life in Ethiopia, especially the flood, and the resilience of Hawassa to flood and other climate-change impacts.

"The housing demand will increase exponentially, with 6,000-7,000 workers expected each year and 35,000-40,000 workers expected by 2021."
related threats (soil degradation and drought included). The project will also seek to positively influence the policies regarding the industrial park to preserve a healthy environment, and to put in place some basic environmental analysis as useful material to planning practice and decision-makers. An environmental and social safeguards assessment will be undertaken to provide policies and guidance for the integration of environmental and social safeguards in the Project Based Management Policy, in order to avoid or minimize indirect and/or unintended impacts of the project.

The project will be gender-balanced and youth-sensitive during the implementation and monitoring process. To pursue this goal, it will make use of gender-disaggregated and age-disaggregated data, and it will contain gender and age perspectives throughout the monitoring and evaluation process. The planning aspects of the project will directly and indirectly influence the safety of women and youth within the city and the park, with a specific focus on public spaces. The participatory planning will include consultation with women for public services and infrastructures to take their safety concerns into account. As the project involves trainings, the selection criteria will be gender and youth sensitive, in order to be genuinely participatory and to indirectly promote the employment of women and youth within the City Administration.

For human rights, in addition to different international laws which recognize access to basic services as a human right, the design of this project is aligned with national policies and legislations; including the constitution of the country. During the trainings there will be specific focus on avoiding forces evictions during the planning process, and consultation at the basis of the participatory nature of the planning activity will also include urban poor and minority groups.

"The project will be gender-balanced and youth-sensitive"
In Kenya, the growing number of young urban citizens, coupled with the explosion of hand-held devices is introducing new challenges and opportunities for both local governments and youth that have not been adequately addressed.

In 2017, UN Habitat’s Youth and Livelihoods Unit implemented the Innovate Counties Challenge Project, a scaling project that seeks to build capacity of local government in small and medium sized cities around the use of ICT as a tool for good governance, planning and youth engagement.
The project sought to institutionalize innovative solutions to enhance citizen engagement in line with UN Habitat’s priorities according to the New Urban Agenda and the Sustainable Development Goals, especially Goal 11 on making cities and human settlements inclusive, safe, resilient and sustainable. The project was implemented in three counties of Kenya – Nairobi, Mombasa and Kisumu.

Main Objectives:

• Bridge the gap between tech savvy urban young people and county governments grappling with devolution and decentralization.

• Give a voice to marginalized youth with regards to county governance issues.

• Develop tech solutions, solving challenges faced by counties.

The project was implemented in three phases:

Phase one of the project – Problem identification. January 2017
In this phase, urban challenge workshops were held in the three counties in partnership with youth groups and other pertinent stakeholders – academia, private sector, county representatives, and civil society; to identify local urban challenge thematic areas specific to each county.

Phase two of the project – Solution identification and development. May 2017
This is the phase where hackathons were held in the three counties. Hackathons are avenues for self-expression and creativity through technology. People with technical backgrounds come together, form teams around a problem or idea, and collaboratively code a unique solution from scratch—these generally take shape in the form of websites, mobile apps, and robots (software or hardware solutions). Thus young technologists came together in the three counties to develop digital solutions to the challenges identified in the urban challenge workshops in each of the counties. The most viable solutions were taken into a development stage called incubation, providing assist technology-oriented entrepreneurs in the start-up and early development stage of their firms.

"The project sought to enhance especially Goal 11 on making cities and human settlements inclusive, safe, resilient and sustainable"
Phase three of the project – Pilot projects implementation October 2017

The third phase focused on the digital solutions most ready from the incubation being implemented in a pilot project to show proof of feasibility and for the solution to be then presented to the county government for support and scaling.

Results

One of the solutions that emerged out of the Nairobi and Mombasa County process is a Digital TV station - Imara TV - that crowdsources and vets academic, entertainment and support information to educate Kenyan Youth on Sexual Reproductive Health (SRH). The platform enables small groups of talented Kenyan youth to express their artistic and digital skills to dramatize the Kenya Government’s Ministry of Health Sexual Reproductive Health curriculum.

Imara TV distributes these videos through social media, smartphone apps and public film shows targeting youths aged 13-35 who are most affected by lack of knowledge about sex leading to high prevalence of teen pregnancy and HIV/AIDS. The goal of Imara TV is to create youth celebrity stars in the local film and music industry who will be positive role models and social influencers to the youth in Kenya which will lead to positive behavioral and attitude change.

The pilot project managed to produce 7 TV series (5 in Nairobi and 2 in Mombasa) from 52 Kenyan youth (33 in Nairobi and 19 in Mombasa). These TV series have so far reached over 350,000 youth (200,000 in Nairobi and over 150,000 in Mombasa) and continue to be watched and shared both online and offline to reach even more audiences and earn more revenue for the youth content creators.

The content was able to generate revenue from entertaining the public and was used as a mass medium to cost effectively educate the public about sex.
The platform that showcases creative and artistic talents among the youth was innovated to capitalize on the untapped potential among the youth in Kenya to create art such as music, movies, comedies, poetry and animation which could be broadcasted to a large audience and earn advertising revenue for the content creators.

Thanks to the youth engagement and work, Imara TV could afford to give them 90% of the Net revenue generated. Not only the content was able to generate revenue from entertaining the public thereby directly and indirectly creating sustainable jobs in the local film industry but also was used as a mass medium to cost effectively educate the public about sex. In the long-term, the team hoped this will change negative public perceptions around SRH issues such as FGM, GBV and LGBTQ and publicly promote positive behavior change such as use of contraceptives and gender equality.

Funders

Imara TV pilot is part of the Innovate Counties Challenge Project that was funded by Making All Voices Count (MAVC) – a fund targeted at the global south region to support innovation and technology that has the potential to support better governance and to leave a legacy of learning that helps to ensure that future governance programmes that seek to capitalize on the transformative potential of innovation and technology are more informed, inclusive and impactful. MAVC was supported by four donors: DFID, USAID, Sida, and the Omidyar Network (ON).
Human Rights

UN Habitat | Cross-Cutting Report 2017
Women own less of the world’s private land, in some cases as little as 2%, with some traditions and customs denying them direct entitlements to property.
Introduction

UN Habitat, the United Nations Human Settlements Programme, is mandated by the UN General Assembly to promote socially and environmentally sustainable towns and cities with the goal of providing adequate shelter for all. Further, as part of the UN family, UN Habitat is mandated to respect, promote, and protect human rights in all of its activities.

Therefore, all of UN Habitat’s interventions are underpinned by universal values and human rights that promote the adoption and implementation of a strong human rights based approach to development.
UN Habitat is the key agency in the implementation of two specific rights – the Right to Adequate Housing and the Right to safe drinking water and sanitation (basic services).

In the quest toward the comprehensive and progressive realization of the right to adequate housing, UN Habitat commenced cooperation with the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights (UN-OHCHR) as early as 2002 to work together under the auspices of the United Nations Housing Rights Programme. Subsequently in 2013, the mainstreaming of human rights was approved as a priority issue by the UN Habitat Governing Council through its inclusion in the 2014-2019 Strategic Plan, and it was further reaffirmed in Para. 38 of its 2015 Resolution 25/4 on Implementation of the Strategic Plan for 2014-2017.

Applying a human rights-based approach defines a pattern of human rights relationships between the individual (rights holder) and the State (duty-bearer). It moves away from simply assessing the needs of beneficiaries toward empowering and building their capacity as (right holders) in asserting their rights. Thus, promoting and mainstreaming Human Rights effectively into strategies, policies, programmes and advisory services UN Habitat contributes to the focus of urban development on the meaningful participation of the beneficiaries of development, especially the marginalized.

**International Frameworks**

The 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, which covers a broad set of 17 Sustainable Development Goals empowers human rights mainstreaming objectives at UN Habitat, in particular Goal 11 on Making Cities Inclusive, Sustainable, Safe and Resilient. The SDGs are the result of the most consultative and inclusive process in the history of the United Nations. Grounded at international human rights law, the 2030 Agenda offers critical opportunities to further advance the realization of human rights for all people everywhere.

**The Right to Adequate Housing**

The United Nations Committee on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights has underlined that the right to adequate housing should not be interpreted narrowly. Rather, it should be seen as the right to live somewhere in security, peace and dignity. The characteristics of the right to adequate housing are clarified mainly in the Committee’s general comments No 4 (1991) on the right to adequate housing and No. 7 (1997) on forced evictions.

- The right to adequate housing contains freedoms.
  - Protection against forced evictions and the arbitrary destruction and demolition of one’s home
  - The right to be free from arbitrary interference with one’s home, privacy and family
  - The right to choose one’s residence, to determine where to live and to freedom of movement

1. Refer to The Right to Adequate Housing, Fact Sheet No. 21 (Rev. 1) (OHCHR & UN Habitat)
The right to adequate housing contains entitlements. These entitlements include:

- **Security of tenure**
- **Housing, land and property restitution**
- **Equal and non-discriminatory access to adequate housing**
- **Participation in housing-related decision-making at the national and community levels**

Adequate housing must provide more than four walls and a roof. A number of conditions must be met before particular forms of shelter can be considered to constitute "adequate housing." These elements are just as fundamental as the basic supply and availability of housing. For housing to be adequate, it must, at a minimum, meet the following criteria:

- **Security of tenure**: housing is not adequate if its occupants do not have a degree of tenure security which guarantees legal protection against forced evictions, harassment and other threats.

- **Availability of services, materials, facilities and infrastructure**: housing is not adequate if its occupants do not have safe drinking water, adequate sanitation, energy for cooking, heating, lighting, food storage or refuse disposal.

- **Affordability**: housing is not adequate if its cost threatens or compromises the occupants' enjoyment of other human rights.

- **Habitability**: housing is not adequate if it does not guarantee physical safety or provide adequate space, as well as protection against the cold, damp, heat, rain, wind, other threats to health and structural hazards.

- **Accessibility**: housing is not adequate if the specific needs of disadvantaged and marginalized groups are not taken into account.

- **Location**: housing is not adequate if it is cut off from employment opportunities, health-care services, schools, childcare centres and other social facilities, or if located in polluted or dangerous areas.

- **Cultural adequacy**: housing is not adequate if it does not respect and take into account the expression of cultural identity.

- **Protection against forced evictions.** Protection against forced evictions is a key element of the right to adequate housing and is closely linked to security of tenure.
Forced evictions are defined as the permanent or temporary removal against their will of individuals, families and/or communities from the homes and/or land which they occupy, without the provision of, and access to, appropriate forms of legal or other protection.

The right to adequate housing is also linked to other human rights, thus, its fulfilment depends, wholly or in part, on the fulfilment of other rights, such as the right to an adequate standard of living, the rights to water and sanitation, the right to health, the right to food, the right to education, freedom of expression, the right to hold property, the right to be free from arbitrary interference with one’s home, privacy and family, and the right to work. These rights are interdependent, indivisible and interrelated; therefore, the inverse is also true.

Structure and Mandate

In 2013, human rights mainstreaming was approved as a priority issue by the UN Habitat Governing Council through its inclusion in the UN Habitat Strategic Plan 2014-2019, and it was explicitly reaffirmed in paragraphs 44 and 52.

UN Habitat has as its human rights mainstreaming objective to promote the strongly human rights-based United Nations NUA, including through strengthening and systematizing its engagement vis-à-vis global policy developments including the 2030 Sustainable Development Agenda and the Human Rights Up Front Initiative of the UN Secretary General. In addition, the objectives of human rights mainstreaming are to improve the capacity of UN Habitat staff and partners to apply human rights considerations in project implementation, to strengthen the effective integration of the Human Rights-Based Approach into the UN Habitat project cycle, and to spur the development of tools that guide a human rights-based implementation of UN Habitat projects.

Key Unit Activities

Human Rights in Cities Training

The 2 day training workshop aimed to enhance staff capacity to implement the Human Rights-Based Approach (HRBA) in all phases of the project cycle and to respect, promote and fulfil human rights in cities.

The training brought together 31 staff, including the Human Rights focal points from each of UN Habitat’s seven branches and four Regional Offices, as well as other interested staff. Short webinars were then developed from the training for those who could not attend the training to be able to receive the same information.

The training was carried out by three experts:

- Malavika Vartak, a researcher and adviser on economic, social and
cultural rights for Amnesty International in London. With 18+ years of experience in Human Rights, including the Right to Adequate Housing;

- **Marcella Favretto**, the Senior Human Rights Adviser to the Resident Coordinator and UNCT in Kenya; and
- **Esther Mwaura-Muiru**, the founder and national coordinator of the “Grassroots Organizations Operating Together in Sisterhood” (GROOTS), a global network of women-led grassroots organizations.

By the end of the training, participants were more knowledgeable about relevant good practices and were able to reproduce them in other mechanisms, regions and areas of human rights, including by identifying the challenges related to the replication of these practices.

**Human Rights in Cities Brown Bag Lunch Series**

4 Human Rights in cities Brown Bags were held in 2017. The Brown Bags served as quick advocacy and capacity building modalities where experts from various sectors delivered presentation on their human rights area of work and its connection and relevance to the work of UN Habitat.

The **first brown bag** was held on January 19th. It focused on Internally Displaced Persons (IDPs). It featured a short documentary, nominated for the German Human Rights Film Award 2016, “Just How Long,” on Internal Displaced Persons in Kenya. It depicts the situation clearly, from the IDPs perspective. Which was followed by a discussion led by GIZ and Kituo cha Sheria respectively.

"Prioritizing water and sanitation issues is therefore crucial in the overall urban development effort"
The second brown bag held on March 30th focused on the issue of migration. It was done in collaboration with Amnesty International. Their regional director presented on responsibility-sharing, local integration and protection issues that need special attention nationally, regionally and globally to ensure that migrants are not barter trading human rights violations when in search for safer and greener pastures.

The subsequent brown bag held on September 26th focused on public and private sector partnerships in humanitarian issues. It featured presentations from colleagues from UN OCHA and Equity Bank.

The last brown bag held on November 29th featured colleagues from the Palestine office, sharing their experiences in implementing the Human Rights Based Approach in a difficult country context.

Human Rights in Cities Handbook Series
Volume 1: The Human Rights-Based Approach to Housing and Slum Upgrading

Violation of the right to adequate housing leads to spatial fragmentation and increases the risk of a deficit of also other human rights, by groups who are discriminated, marginalized and excluded. The purpose of this handbook is to improve upon this by increasing the capacities of external stakeholders on the Human Rights-based Approach (HRBA) in intervening in housing and slum upgrading through:

- Raising awareness on the different causes of housing and slum upgrading challenges
- Addressing them in an integrated and inclusive way to ensure urbanization is transformative and sustainable
- Illustrating the steps of the Human Rights-based approach that housing and slum upgrading actors should consider in policies, programmes and projects
- Drawing linkages to the implementation of the New Urban Agenda and Sustainable Development Goals
Women have more opportunities for gainful employment in cities; however, they continue to earn less than men, due to the gendered division of labour which segregates them to lower-paid jobs. For women living in poverty there are immense challenges in accessing credit and financing for themselves and their organizations.
Case Study

Rehabilitation of Dar Al Consul into a Residential and Civic Complex-Phases II and III, Palestine

The Old City in Jerusalem has a very high population density that reaches 900 persons per hectare. Such a high density, in addition to the economic stagnation that the city suffers from, has resulted in deterioration in the quality of life, the urban and residential environment and the services provided inside the Old City.
Moreover, the Old City lacks public spaces, facilities for youth and children, communities and social programs. It also suffers from high unemployment and poverty rates, and many social problems among its youth community including high crime levels.

The proposed project aims at contributing to the huge demand for redevelopment in the Old City. The project addresses several development aspects inside the Old City, including: houses and open space rehabilitation, historic and Palestinian cultural identity preservation, youth and local economic development.

The project responds to the fact that improving the living and housing conditions of Palestinian Communities needs to address a larger environment than houses. Interventions need to achieve comprehensive development that targets families and the urban environment they live in. The project seeks to explore a neighborhood development approach in a historical decayed complex, that has the potential of providing an integrated living environment inclusive to open space provision, social and urban services for the benefit of the Complex residents and their wider community.

The Dar Al Consul, which is located in the Muslim quarter of the Old City, owned by the Holy Land Custody, is selected for this action. Accordingly, the action will demonstrate a model that can be replicated in the Old City, which accommodates more than 12% of Jerusalem residents in similar fabric. Also, it is expected to illustrate the Palestinian cultural identity and its resilience to the pressures of marginalization.

The key activities are integrating the cross-cutting issues in a holistic manner.
The main objectives of the project are following:

- The living conditions of 17 resident families in the Old City, mostly old aged families, are improved and enriched with a stronger sense of identity
- A new innovative Palestinian civic and commercial hub with living heritage value is created inside the Old City demonstrating a modern layer of diverse uses, following eco-friendly development principles and completion of major structural and safety support to the complex.
- The Palestinian youth in East Jerusalem benefit from an innovative knowledge and career guidance hub
- The capacity of a designated Palestinian youth group is built to engage in business development and operation.

The project is sought to explore a neighborhood development approach in a historical decayed complex in order to provide holistic, integrated housing for Palestinian families and offer further support for the development and strengthening of the community as a whole.

The project’s key activities are contributing to a holistic integration of the cross-cutting issues. In terms of climate change it aims to utilize an eco-friendly development approach and will use local and traditional building material. It will further train users of the complex in terms of eco-friendly usage and behavior. Besides, an environmental conscious management plan will reduce electricity consumption and minimizes storm water runoff.

The project also prioritizes gender issues and will aim for a balanced representation of both genders in staff as well as in users and provide capacity development activities for women and girls.

Additionally, the center in itself will provide immediate employment opportunities for female staff. Moreover, it follows the human rights based approach by providing suitable housing for a number of vulnerable families mitigating the further marginalization of Palestinians and strengthening their cultural identity. Its capacity development programmes will also enhance the economic prosperity of its participants and the rehabilitation of public spaces will have a positive effect on Palestinians quality of life.
The project is implementing activities directly aimed at youth, building their capacities by establishing a youth center to support their development, increase knowledge sharing and offer career and education counseling. It will also offer a mentorship programme for youth to interact with local entrepreneurs and enhance their confidence.

The project supports a balanced approach to all four cross-cutting issues and recognizes youth, women and the most vulnerable as direct stakeholders as well as providing appropriate measurements to mitigate any negative effects of climate change and enhance the resilience of the Palestinian community.

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The action will demonstrate a model that can be replicated in the Old City, which accommodates more than 12% of Jerusalem residents in similar fabric. Also, it is expected to illustrate the Palestinian cultural identity and its resilience to the pressures of marginalization
UN Habitat assists countries to develop and implement housing policies, strategies and programmes
Youth
Though youth are vital to the prosperity of cities in the developing world, they still face many barriers — most notably underemployment and unemployment, and a lack of access to basic services such as healthcare and education—which prevent them from reaching their potential.
Introduction

The mandate for youth as a cross-cutting issue for UN Habitat is operationalized by the Youth and Livelihoods Unit—one of the longest standing youth programmes within the UN system—as per the following Governing Council (GC) resolutions on youth: 19/13 Enhancing the Engagement of Youth in the Work of UN Habitat, 20/1 Youth and Human Settlements, 21/6 Urban Youth Development, 22/1 Strengthening the Development of Urban Young People, 23/7 Urban Youth Development: The Next Step. A report was done evaluating youth mainstreaming in UN Habitat in 2012 (1), with a full evaluation done in 2014.

(1) Youth Empowerment for Urban Development: Mainstreaming Youth in UN Habitat Programmes
https://www.dropbox.com/s/4621xks0fxyi9qi/%20%20Youth%20Empowerment%20for%20Urban%20Development%20.pdf?dl=0
In the 20th Governing Council, *UN Habitat and Youth: Strategy For Enhanced Engagement* was adopted which provided a forward-looking plan and framework for engaging in UN Habitat. The objective of the strategy is to provide an integrated approach to urban youth development, which mainstreams a focus on the youth in the normative and operational activities of UN Habitat, and strengthens the impact of the Agency’s work in reducing urban poverty. It provides a road map for the promotion of urban youth empowerment and participation in the implementation of the Habitat Agenda and then related Millennium Sustainable Development Goals.

In the strategy, UN Habitat committed to developing, supporting and promoting initiatives, which contributed to:

- Mainstreaming youth as a cross-cutting element in the design and implementation of UN-Habitat programmes and priorities
- Initiating and fostering inter-agency collaboration, as well as partnerships with young men and women’s organizations, as vehicles for outreach and youth participation
- Engaging youth concerns at an international level to help formulate an international understanding of pressing youth issues
- Recognizing the diversities among young people, with a special focus on young women, and enhancing their participation in UN Habitat’s work so that young people’s views and contributions are valued
- Providing youth with the best-available information resources and facilities pertaining to employment, health, crime prevention, governance, gender equality and empowerment and youth rights and responsibilities
- Providing evidence-based approaches that show how effective integration of the youth in development strategies strengthens racial integration, inclusiveness and reliable impact

The objective of the strategy is to provide an integrated approach to urban youth development
International Frameworks

The UN System-wide Action Plan on Youth (Youth SWAP) provides strategic guidance to the UN system as a whole in its work on youth within the framework of the World Programme of Action for Youth. The SWAP was developed by the Inter-Agency Network on Youth Development at a time when UN Habitat held the chair jointly with UNDESA. The Youth SWAP was adopted by the Secretary-General in 2012 as part of his second five-year action plan. It provides an opportunity to promote joint programmatic work on youth development and to identify ways in which activities undertaken by individual entities can complement each other.

The main aim of the Youth SWAP is to enhance the coherence and synergy of United Nations’ system-wide activities in key areas related to youth development. It builds on the specific mandates, expertise and capacities of individual United Nations entities, pooling the strengths of the whole United Nations system and promoting joint programmatic work in the areas of employment, entrepreneurship, political inclusion, civic engagement and protection of rights and education.

Structure and Mandate

UN Habitat seeks to ensure that youth have a place in initiatives implemented by the agency in order to enhance the awareness on youth. Youth are one of the key stakeholders in implementing sustainable urbanization as well as the society’s most essential, dynamic and ambitious human resource. UN Habitat has during 2017 enhanced its efforts in this regard, both externally with partners and internally through formalized mechanisms, awareness and capacity development for staff members, consultants and interns, aiming to institutionalize youth mainstreaming in all relevant areas for the agency.

The Youth SWAP builds on the specific mandates, expertise and capacities of individual United Nations entities
UN Habitat mainstreams youth in two different ways. First, it works directly with organs of the agency: branches, units and regional and country offices and through the Project Advisor Group in the application of the YM—in a process of conducting a youth sensitive analysis in the conceptualization phase of initiatives, taking into account youth interests and needs aiming at decreasing societal inequalities. The primary focus of planned activities should assure that youth interests have been accounted for in order to ensure there are no negative impacts on youth as a consequence of UN Habitat’s intervention.

Second, UN Habitat mainstreams youth through joint youth programmes within UN Habitat and across the UN system. This allows the sharing of expertise with the different programmes of UN Habitat. Some examples of this have been the Youth and Land programme, a joint programme of the Youth Unit and the GLTN; the Mogadishu One Stop programme, where the Youth Unit has supported the Somali programme to develop a One Stop in Mogadishu; and the Asia Pacific Urban Forum on Youth, where the Youth Unit and the ROAP jointly co-hosted a youth event in the lead up to the Habitat III.

**Key Unit Activities**

**SHAQEYSO Training Programme at the Mogadishu One Stop Youth Centre (Somalia)**
Meaning ‘to work’ in Somali, the Shaqesyo programme developed an intensive three month integrated and comprehensive training programme which addresses the needs of the youth life skills, vocational training, entrepreneurial training and community works activities.

**Innovate Counties Challenge (Kenya)**
In partnership with three county Governments in Kenya- Nairobi, Mombasa and Kisumu, and three tech hubs in the respective counties, the project seeks to establish ICT based mechanisms for democratic and inclusive participation at local level to enhance youth engagement in local governance; and to increase transparency and accountability of local county governments through incorporation of ICT tools into their governance processes.

**Live Work Space for Youth (Korea)**
UN Habitat is working closely with its partner Youth Now to engage Seoul Housing, the housing corporation for the City of Seoul, to develop a model of live/work spaces for youth in Seoul. The concept of the spaces is to create housing which would have work space, including training and employment support, on the ground floor of a 10 unit housing complex.
One Stop Youth Resource Centres – Accreditation Programme (Rwanda)

The Kimisigara One Stop Centre in Kigali, Rwanda is one of the four original centres established in the early 2000s. The One Stop is a full service Centre, having services over 300,000 youth since 2011. The principle programmes of the centre are a health centre, a fully operational ICT and tailoring workshop, a sports field, a gym, and community space. The success of the Kimisigara centre has encouraged the government to expand youth centres into the 30 districts of Rwanda. UN Habitat is assisting in this through its accreditation programme where it will assist the coordinators of the Centres to reach the global standards set by UN Habitat for One Stop Centres, and if they do this, accredit them as a One Stop Centre.

One Stop Youth Resource Centres (Nairobi, Mathare, Mandera County)

UN Habitat established the first One Stop in Nairobi in 2003 in a partnership with the City of Nairobi. The One Stop services 300 youth per day and provides food for 400 street children three times a week. The football pitch is the only active public spaces in Mlango Kubwa. The pitch is also used by a local enterprise called Mathare Empire for concerts and events.

South Sudan and Democratic Republic of Congo

A One Stop Centre is being constructed in Gureii, South Sudan and Goma, DRC, with the purpose of providing safe and generative space for youth in these conflict countries. Similar to the other One Stops, a number of programmes and activities will be delivered through the Centres, with a focus on employment and entrepreneurship training, health service delivery, and recreational services. These Centres are coordinated by the Regional Office for Africa.

Urban Youth Fund Window – Urban Peace Labs Initiative (Colombia)

In partnership with Servicio Nacional de Aprendizaje (SENA), UN Habitat is implementing the Urban Youth Fund Window – Urban Peace Labs project. The goal of this project is to promote peace and foster entrepreneurship opportunities for Colombian youth.

Ten youth groups were awarded grants to undertake social entrepreneurship projects that advance the goal of peace in Colombia. In August 2017, the Youth Unit conducted a week-long training in partnership with, SENA, Ashoka and IMPACT HUB in the areas of small business development, social entrepreneurship, social innovation, peace building and programme management for the ten youth groups.
**World Urban Youth Councils Network (Turkey)**
The World Urban Youth Councils Network program was established as a partnership between the Istanbul Metropolitan Municipality Youth Assembly (IMMYA) and UN Habitat. The WUYC network was established in response to the strong commitment of young men and women at the local level who are working to create sustainable cities and towns. One of the key ways in which youth can engage locally is through local youth councils, similar to what has happened in Istanbul Municipality.

**Global**

**ECOSOC Youth Forum 2017 (United States)**
The United Nations Economic and Social Council (ECOSOC) Youth Forum 2017 on “The role of youth in poverty eradication and promoting prosperity in a changing world”, took place on 30-31 January 2017 at the United Nations Headquarters in New York. UN Habitat ran the breakout session on “End poverty in all its forms and create decent jobs for youth” self-employment was identified as a critical solution to youth unemployment. It requires an enabling environment built around national entrepreneurship strategies, optimization of the regulatory environment, enhancing entrepreneurial education and skills development, facilitating technology exchanges, innovation, ICT training and access as well as promoting awareness and networking.

**Expert Group Meeting on “Youth, Peace and Security: Social Issues and Social Policies” (Italy)**
The Youth Unit participated and contributed to an expert group meeting titled “Youth, Peace and Security: Social Issues and Social Policies”. The meeting brought together a small group of experts from academia, youth organizations, United Nations entities, and governmental and intergovernmental institutions to examine current challenges regarding youth, peace and security issues, and discuss ways to promote and enhance young people’s positive engagement in conflict prevention, peacebuilding and sustaining peace. The Unit also contributed to this expert group meeting by producing a paper on “Preventing Youth Engagement in Organized Violence such as gangs” which will feed into the Report of the United Nations Progress Study on Youth, Peace and Security.

**Global Conference on Cities and Migration (Belgium)**
UN Habitat’s Youth Unit, in partnership with city of Mechelen Youth Department and the Mechelen youth council organized a youth exhibition and a side event at the Global Conference Cities and Migration in Belgium. The conference brought together, refugee and migration experts,
academia, government officials, youth, civil society, members from the business community and city leaders to discuss the social and economic risks and opportunities of young migrants and ways on how to improve the social capital and economic integration of youth.

**Inclusive Cities Summit (Canada)**

Together with the Youth Advisory Committee of UN Habitat, and the University of Toronto, the Youth Unit helped organize the Inclusive Cities Summit in Toronto, Canada. The purpose of the Summit was to bring together youth, city leaders, civil society organizations and academics to examine how to build more inclusive, safe, and environmental friendly cities through a New Urban Agenda and 2030 Agenda lens that also advances the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals.

**International Peace Day (Kenya, USA, South Korea)**

On International Peace Day, the Youth Unit organized several events simultaneously, in Nairobi, Goyang South Korea and New York. The events highlighted evidence-based promising practices in youth peace building and how world leaders can support youth’s meaningful engagement in decision making at all levels of government.

The UN System-wide Action Plan on Youth (Youth SWAP) provides strategic guidance to the UN system as a whole in its work on youth within the framework of the World Programme of Action for Youth
Land Tenure and Youth

UN Habitat partnered with the Global Land Tool Network (GLTN) to address persistent tenure insecurity and high levels of informal settlements that severely impact the livelihoods of today’s youth. To address the issue of limited youth inclusion in land reform processes, GLTN and UN Habitat developed land tools to strengthen the capacity of countries and communities to implement youth-responsive land reforms. The Youth and Land Responsive Criteria was created to assess land programmes and policies to ensure that youth and land issues are equitably addressed so as to achieve tenure security for all.

High Level visit puts Spotlight on Resilience of Young Women and Men (Kenya)

The Youth Unit organized a visit to the Mathare Environmental Conservation One Stop Youth Centre (MECOSYC) and a high-level panel discussion with the Canadian Minister of Immigration, Refugees and Citizenship Honourable Ahmed Hussen, United Nations Secretary-General’s Envoy on Youth, Jayathma Wickramanayake, and Deputy Executive Director Dr. Aisa Kacyira. The event highlighted the importance of integration of refugees, and supporting host communities.

Workshop „Youth Empowerment for Agenda 2030 Action through Social Entrepreneurship Capacity Building and Digital Social Currencies“ (Austria)

The workshop served to introduce and strengthen the understanding of how innovative technologies, such as digital currencies based on blockchain technology, as well as information and communication technologies, can best contribute to the achievement of the SDGs.

The workshop explored how these technologies can function as enablers for social entrepreneurship, particularly by youth-led enterprises, considering the unmatched potential that entrepreneurship promotion and youth empowerment have in driving development and achieving the 2030 Agenda.
Case Study

Infonavit leading the 2030 Agenda: Housing at the center of the Sustainable Development Goals, Mexico

In 2014, UN Habitat and Infonavit signed a Contribution Agreement to undertake the City Prosperity Initiative (CPI) in 146 municipalities of Mexico. The results of this project were presented in Quito, during Habitat III, generating the global recognition of Infonavit as a leader in sustainable urban development.
To date, Mexico is the country with the highest number of cities where the CPI has been calculated. Following the success of this collaboration, Infonavit requested UN Habitat to prepare a new project proposal to extend the CPI calculation to Mexico’s entire urban system and promote the implementation of the 2030 Agenda in Mexico through the housing sector.

The program aims to (re)position housing within the contemporary debate on sustainable urban development, putting housing as a central element for reaching the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), to strengthen Infonavit’s leadership in the housing sector, and to elevate its profile as a leading global advocate and promoter of the 2030 Agenda and the New Urban Agenda.

Objectives:
- Support an evidence-based approach in urban policies by calculating the CPI for all cities in Mexico.
- Promote increased coordination between actors in the housing sector through the 2030 Agenda and the New Urban Agenda.
- Promote a shift in thinking and practice of housing development, encouraging the construction of adequate and accessible housing through a coherent and integrated approach with urban development policies.

The project successfully integrates all four cross-cutting issues with clear strategies listed for each issue, which include three central components: collection of disaggregated data, promotion of sustainable housing development, and institutional alignment to SDGs. For climate change, the project has carried out a baseline study of climate change in Mexican cities, realized their

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To date, Mexico is the country with the highest number of cities where the City Prosperity Initiative (CPI) has been calculated
vulnerability to climate change (in particular droughts, floods and landslides), and aimed to reduce greenhouse gas emissions. Sustainable building design, climatic and cultural adequacy of housing, proximity to job opportunities, access to sustainable mobility, will be addressed and promoted.

For gender equality, the project realizes that, when gender equality is embedded in urban development strategies, efficiency is enhanced, asset utilization becomes optimal, productivity improves, and social cohesion is strengthened. In Mexico, a marked gender gap remains in housing ownership. Basic and Extended CPI data, an enhanced national statistical capacity and high-quality, reliable and timely sex-disaggregated data will be designed and collected.

Furthermore, the project strongly promotes a Human Rights-Based Approach to urbanization. The right to adequate housing, in particular, is fundamental to ensure social integration and the elimination of the urban divide, and related to other basic rights: work, education and health. Access to adequate housing, water and sanitation or any other civic, cultural, economic, political and social right, as well as public transport, as a means to access to other human rights, are integral parts of the CPI indicators and metrics. Such an approach promotes social inclusion and the enfranchisement of vulnerable groups and establishes housing at the centre of sustainable development.

For youth, the project realizes that the central role that youth play in establishing a new path for development. Access to quality housing, in particular, is an important resource for improving quality of life and achieving sustainability. The project will collect reliable and timely data disaggregated by sex and age, promote the development of youth empowerment strategies in urban areas that contribute to fight against inequalities, and support the institutionalization of the culture of youth mainstreaming and youth equality, the implementation of youth-sensitive projects/programmes, and the monitoring of youth-mainstreaming progress.

"The project strongly promotes a Human Rights-Based Approach to urbanization"
Case Study

Enhancing urban resilience to climate change impacts and natural disasters: Honiara, Solomon Islands

As a Small Island Developing States (SIDS) in the Pacific, the Solomon Islands is amongst the most vulnerable countries to the risks caused by climate change. The island has been highly exposed to an array of extreme climate events driven by natural variability, as well as other natural hazards such as earthquakes and tsunamis.
As rural people migrate to cities, seeking access to better education, health, employment opportunities and other urban services the proliferation of informal settlements has become a priority for the government. As noted at the Pacific Urban Forum in 2015, the Solomon Islands is considered to be one of the world’s fastest urbanizing countries, with the majority of these migrants heading to its capital Honiara.

Overwhelmed by these developments, the island’s City Council lags behind in its urban development and planning capacities, resulting in Honiara becoming increasingly vulnerable towards external shocks in urban infrastructure, housing and service provision. A lack of adequate infrastructure and basic services, issues related to land tenure in peri-urban areas, and weak institutional structures governing the urban environment further aggravate the situation. Even though urbanization could potentially act as a key process in adapting to climate change it currently exacerbates the island’s climate change challenges and inhibits the urban communities to respond in an appropriate manner.

In line with and in support of the Honiara Urban Resilience and Climate Action Plan (HURCAP), the overarching goal of this project is to enhance the resilience of Honiara and its inhabitants to current and future climate impacts and natural disasters, with a particular focus on pro-poor adaptation actions that involve and benefit the most vulnerable communities in the city. This project therefore intends to work with vulnerable urban communities in Honiara to implement climate adaptation actions and to undertake capacity strengthening initiatives across multiple urban scales in order to strengthen the climate resilience of the city.

The core project objectives are as follows:

- To support the implementation of prioritized resilience actions in vulnerability hotspot communities
- To strengthen the capacity of local communities to respond to climate change and natural hazards through awareness raising and capacity development training
- To support the implementation of resilience actions that target women, youth, urban agriculture and food security, and disaster risk reduction
- To strengthen the capacity of ward officials / councils to lead climate change adaptation and DRR planning activity, in support of increased urban resilience
- To strengthen institutional arrangements at the city-level to respond to climate change and natural disasters through mainstreaming, improved partnership working

"The majority of migrants head to its capital Honiara"
The project successfully integrates all cross-cutting issues by recognizing the importance of appropriate urbanization in regards to climate change mitigation activities, whilst simultaneously including the most vulnerable and marginalized as important stakeholders, following a human rights based approach. To develop climate change mitigating activities is the main expected accomplishment of the project, with corresponding actions, indicators and targets central to building resilience to climate change. The project has further conducted an environmental analysis, analyzing terrain and the regional climate system and linked climate change and its impact to the city’s infrastructure.

Additionally, a gender-responsive strategy will be applied and the Logical Framework of the project includes gender-sensitive indicators and a risk assessment. The project has recognized women as important target groups and will seek to strengthen awareness and ownership of adaptation and climate risk reduction processes amongst women and youth in particular. It has collected sex- and age-disaggregated data on the primary beneficiaries of the project and previous projects and will pay particular attention to the empowerment of women and youth.

The project follows the human rights based approach identifying right-holders and duty-bearers as well as analyzing capacity gaps of relevant stakeholders. It further addresses the right to adequate housing as well as the right to water and sanitation which are central human rights. Lastly, the project will provide job and training opportunities for youth, ensuring their participation on all stages of the project. By integrating the four cross-cutting issues into its design the project manages to follow a holistic approach leaving no one behind right in line with the New Urban Agenda and the Sustainable Development Goals.

The islands are vulnerable to climate change
11% of the world’s population still lack access to water that is safe for consumption. This figure rises to over 40% in Sub-Saharan Africa. Prioritizing water and sanitation issues is therefore crucial in the overall urban development effort.
Case Study

Urban Youth Fund Window - Urban Peace Labs Initiative, Colombia

The UN Habitat Urban Youth Fund is one example of how youth-led development can be encouraged and enhanced. UN Habitat developed innovative youth-led development programmes with the launching of the Urban Youth Fund in 2008. The Fund, one of the first of its kind, was created to support grassroots youth-led initiatives globally.
Since its creation, the Urban Youth Fund projects have operated in 172 cities and 63 countries in Africa, Asia and the Pacific, Latin America, and the Caribbean and funded 285 Youth-led projects, sponsored vocational training and credit mechanisms for entrepreneurship and employment. (1)

Urban Peace Labs programme is a strategic national intervention in Colombia, implemented by UN Habitat in partnership with Servicio Nacional de Aprendizaje in order to respond to the recently signed peace agreement between the Colombia Government and the Revolutionary Armed Forces (FARC). The project is designed to promote social inclusion for the vulnerable and marginalized groups including the FARC members.

The Urban Peace Labs project has been structured to promote meaningful participation for youth through developing of youth-led innovative and entrepreneurial ideas in cities. Potential solutions to address urban challenges were identified and addressed through a call for proposal, which garnered 30 youth-led registered organizations as applicants from various cities in Colombia.

The projects addressed solutions on improving livelihood, behavioural change and inclusion in decision-making structures using ICT driven tools, art, culture and sports. Through a rigorous evaluation and selection process, 10 youth-led organizations from cities; Puerto Berrio, Pereira, Manizales, Bogotá DC, Cali, Tuluá Valle del Cauca and La Dorada Caldas, were selected and awarded a seed grant of 10,000 USD.

Vocational programs
Subsequent to the seed grant, the beneficiary organizations participated in a week’s vocational training geared towards developing the project concepts to social entrepreneurs in Cali, which equipped them with skills on program management, budgeting, marketing, pitching ideas and concepts to donors, stakeholder management, business model integration, value propositions, negotiation, conflict resolution, social entrepreneurship, social innovation and leadership.

Mentorship Programme
The Colombia Urban Peace Labs mentorship program is a volunteer capacity building program, established by UN Habitat in partnership with Fundación Bancolombia (Bancolombia Foundation). Fundación Bancolombia (2) through its employees offer mentorship to the beneficiary projects of the Urban Peace Lab program in cities in Colombia, with the aim to strengthen their activities and integrate elements that would increase on their impact such as: integrating business models, sustainability of projects, financial management and project management.

Fundación Bancolombia received 70 applications as volunteers to the program. Following consultations with the projects, 17 mentors were matched to 9 projects. This was followed by an induction meeting, which runs the two parties through the various operations and needs of the program, with the individual mentors and mentees to kick start the implementation.
Main Objectives

- Promoting employment and entrepreneurship to encourage social and economic reintegration of youth
- Behavioral change among youth to prevent conflict and violence: and resolve conflict peacefully while also creating sustainable conditions for peace
- Increased awareness of youth mainstreaming and meaningful participation of youth in influencing policies and strategies in efforts of peace building and resilience in Colombia

Results

The Colombia Urban Peace Labs is an example of national programming supported by the Government of Colombia in implementing Sustainable Development Goal 11 (Make cities and human settlements inclusive, safe, resilient and sustainable) and the United Nations Security Council 2250. Through the Colombia Urban Peace Labs young people in cities in Colombia have a platform to develop innovative solutions to urban challenges and more specifically building their resilience during and post conflict. In this regard the project has impacted through:

- Engaging 55 youth in leadership roles
- Delivering 1500 peace building workshops and trainings
- Training 1146 beneficiaries
- Training 1085 young people between 6-26 years old

Funders

Servicio Nacional de Aprendizaje (SENA) brings over 50 years of experience in its role as a public institution, assigned to the Colombian Ministry of Labor, in charge of providing social and technical training. Their model of training, vocational services and peer mentoring is designed to meet the needs of the Colombian citizens, fostering economic self-reliance and resilient local economies.

Fundación Bancolombia is a sustainable development platform of the Bancolombia Group to help connect people and communities with possibilities to build equitable, profitable and prosperous territories.

1. For more information on youth-led development and the UN Habitat Urban Youth Fund, see for example: http://www.globalyouthdesk.org/index.php?option=com_k2&view=item&id=155:mapping-urban-youth-led-development&Itemid=63 Accessed 05.08.2015
2. Bancolombia is the largest commercial bank in Colombia and one of the largest in Latin America.

The joint programme targets three outcomes: (i) Improved long-term potential for growth, productivity and inclusive employment through six value chains implementation plans; (ii) Enhanced
longer-term employability of youth in sectors with high growth and employment potential; (iii) Productive infrastructure rehabilitated through labour-intensive methods.

UN Habitat’s contribution lies in component 2: Enhancing longer-term employability through of youth through skills development. The goal of UN Habitat’s contribution to the joint programme is to improve the livelihoods of conflict affected youth, both men and women, through the development of a One Stop Youth Resource Centre in Mogadishu and 2 satellite centres in other urban districts in Somalia that address the livelihood and psychosocial needs of Somali youth in a holistic manner.

Main Objectives

• Increase employment opportunities for youth through vocational and business skills training and promotion of entrepreneurial practices,
• Provide safe spaces for youth to meet and access – in addition to livelihood and employment training – life skills training, psychosocial information and support as well as educational and social resources and activities.

Results

Shaquesyo meaning ‘to work’ in Somali, the programme developed an intensive three month integrated and comprehensive training programme which addresses the needs of the youth through three core activities including:

• 120 hours of comprehensive life skills
• 120 hours of vocational (construction) training
• 20 hours of ‘build your own business’ entrepreneurial training delivered through a licensed curriculum and business development trainer
• up to 240 hours of community works activities guided by various stakeholders, youth participants themselves city officials, and partner groups in the city
Offering a unique combination of skills training, personal development, and the opportunity for youth to support in the development of their communities; 180 vulnerable youth from 6 districts of Mogadishu: Hawl-Wadag, Shingani, Bondhere, Shibis, Karan and Abdi-Aziz were registered for the first cohort. Ensuring that there are equal opportunities for all, the participation of young females was highly encouraged and culminating in the registration of 70 female into the program.

Completing the programme, the youth have immensely benefited from the programme learning about the core concepts of conflict management, problem-solving, decision-making, interpersonal and communication skills, teamwork and cooperation and understanding youth rights while also gaining vocational training skills in construction the combination of which will make them marketable to the local economy.

In addition to building the capacity of the youth, the program has become a platform for youth to engage with a range of local and federal leaders including His Excellency Hassan Sheikh Mohamoud, the President of Somalia, who had the chance to appreciate the benefits the program brought for youth in the city of Mogadishu. Taking the time to engage with the youth directly, he encouraged the young women and men to continue with the training highlighting the how the great optimism of youth to make a change can contribute to the development of their nation.

**Funders**

The SHAQEYSO Training Programme at the Mogadishu One Stop Youth Centre is part of the United Nations Joint Programme on Youth Employment implemented together with UNDP, FAO and ILO. This aims to revitalize and expand the Somali economy with a focus on livelihood enhancement, employment generation, and broad-based inclusive growth.

The overall programme has a duration of 36 months funded by MPTF and a combination of parallel and pooled funds for a total of USD 8,900,500 under the coordination of UNDP. The main donors are Sweden, Denmark and Italy.

"The program has become a platform for youth to engage with a range of local and federal leaders"
UN Habitat envisions well-planned, well-governed, and efficient cities and other human settlements, with adequate housing, infrastructure, and universal access to employment and basic services such as water, energy, and sanitation.
Next Steps
Water should be sufficient, continuously available and safe to use, for both personal and domestic uses. Likewise, water and sanitation services should be accessible within one’s immediate vicinity and affordable to all without any discrimination.
Cross-Cutting Issues at the forefront of UN Habitat project development

The current system has proven successful and has put Cross-Cutting Issues at the forefront of UN Habitat project development. Using this strong foundation, there are possibilities to further improve and institutionalise mainstreaming efforts, in order to ensure the long-term impacts and sustainability of projects.

Three priority areas have been identified to target in the coming biennium:

- Introduction of project monitoring and on-going support
- Direct support to larger country programmes
- Improved knowledge management

Project monitoring will focus on the development of formal monitoring mechanisms, to improve support to project managers at critical junctures and increase accountability of project managers. This mechanism will include measures for regular reporting, as well as target critical moments in
project implementation. Reporting will highlight key successes and challenges, key outcomes of HRBA-based activities and support needed from cross-cutting coordination team.

Direct support to larger country programmes will initially focus on a large programme in each of the four regions: Afghanistan (ROAP), Iraq (ROAS), Somalia (ROAF) and Bolivia (ROLAC). Support will target the overall programme of each country, providing country-specific advice, capacity building for national staff and will serve as a focal point for the programme in HQ. This is aligned with broader UN Habitat efforts towards integrated programming and supporting country teams.

Improved knowledge management will include the development of an internal platform for sharing best practice and lessons learnt among country teams mainstreaming cross-cutting issues. It will also serve as a platform for quick questions to the cross-cutting team, exchanging of ideas, sharing guidance material and strengthening of the focal point network. The platform will use the pre-existing ‘Workplace’ arrangement that UN Habitat is currently expanding.

These enhancements will enable UN Habitat to fully mainstream the cross-cutting issues throughout its work and ultimately improve the impact of work for those furthest behind.

These enhancements will enable UN Habitat to fully mainstream the cross-cutting issues throughout its work and ultimately improve the impact of work for those furthest behind.
Connections
UN Habitat establishes think tanks and networks that enable governments, experts, civil society groups, multilateral organizations, private sector, and all other development partners to jointly address present and future urban predicaments.
UN Habitat New Executive Director
UN Habitat Welcomes a New Executive Director in 2018 - Maimunah Mohd Sharif.

Afghanistan 2nd Safer Cities Summit
Cross-cutting staff travelled to Afghanistan to run training workshops with local community members, mayors, senior UN Habitat staff and the Kabul local government. The workshop for community members involved over 200 participants from across the country and led to a positive and frank discussion about how the empowerment of women is of benefit to the whole community.
African Forum for Urban Safety, Durban
Cross-cutting staff attended the ‘African Forum for Urban Safety’ in Durban, South Africa. The forum discussed safety issues in urban cities and focused on the safety of women and youth. The forum also targeted the empowerment of female mayors across the continent and encouraged increased participation of women in governance, at all levels.

Saudi Arabia training for women and men
Staff of the Gender and Youth Units work with local staff in Saudi Arabia to train young women and men in urban planning and governance. The participants used the ‘Block by Block’ Minecraft program to plan and design their own public spaces, and present to the Saudi Ministry of Municipal and Rural Affairs (MOMRA)
BRIDGE CRPD-SDG training

UN Habitat staff work with persons with disability from across east and west Africa, as part of the International Disability Alliance and the International Disability and Development Consortium BRIDGE CRPD-SDG Training. BRIDGE CRPD-SDG is an intensive training programme that aims to support organisations of persons with disabilities and disability rights advocates to develop an inclusive and comprehensive perspective on development, including the post-2015 agenda and SDGs, to reinforce their advocacy for inclusion and realisation of rights of persons with disabilities.

MASHAV Israel international course

Staff working with MASHAV in Israel as part of the international course on ‘Building Sustainable Communities: Leadership, Gender, and the Environment’
Global, national and local partners

UN Habitat staff form a critical part of the global conversation towards achieving sustainable urban development. From the highest global levels, down to the local community level, staff work with global, national and local partners to ensure that urban development is sustainable and inclusive.
Cities are the main creators of economic wealth, generating over 70% of the world’s Gross Domestic Product (GDP). Most industries and businesses are located in or within immediate vicinity of urban areas, providing city residents with jobs.
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Acronym</th>
<th>Full Form</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>AGGI</td>
<td>Advisory Group of Gender Issues</td>
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<tr>
<td>CCAC</td>
<td>Climate and Clean Air Coalition</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CCM</td>
<td>Climate Change Marker</td>
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<tr>
<td>CECSR</td>
<td>Committee on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights</td>
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<tr>
<td>CEDAW</td>
<td>Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>COP21</td>
<td>Conference of Parties (Paris Conference)</td>
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<tr>
<td>COP22</td>
<td>Conference of Parties (Marrakesh Conference)</td>
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<tr>
<td>COP23</td>
<td>Conference of Parties (Bonn Conference)</td>
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<tr>
<td>CPI</td>
<td>City Prosperity Index</td>
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<tr>
<td>EGM</td>
<td>Expert Group Meeting</td>
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<tr>
<td>GC</td>
<td>Governing Council</td>
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<tr>
<td>GDP</td>
<td>Gross Domestic Product</td>
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<tr>
<td>GEAP</td>
<td>Gender Equality Action Plan</td>
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<tr>
<td>GEM</td>
<td>Gender Equality Marker</td>
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<tr>
<td>GEU</td>
<td>Gender Equality Unit</td>
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<tr>
<td>GFPs</td>
<td>Gender Focal Points</td>
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<tr>
<td>GLTN</td>
<td>Global Land Tool Network</td>
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<tr>
<td>GPP</td>
<td>Policy and Plan for Gender Equality and the Empowerment of Women in Urban Planning and Human Settlements</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>GROOTS</td>
<td>Grassroots Organizations Operating Together in Sisterhood</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>HRBA</td>
<td>Human Rights Based Approach</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>HRM</td>
<td>Human Rights Marker</td>
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<tr>
<td>Acronym</td>
<td>Full Name</td>
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<tr>
<td>IANYD</td>
<td>Inter-Agency Network on Youth Development</td>
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<tr>
<td>ICESR</td>
<td>International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ICLEI</td>
<td>Local Governments for Sustainability</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>IOM</td>
<td>International Organization for Migration</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MASHAV</td>
<td>Agency for International Development Cooperation in the Ministry of Foreign Affairs</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>NGO</td>
<td>Non-Governmental Organization</td>
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<tr>
<td>NUA</td>
<td>New Urban Agenda</td>
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<tr>
<td>OECD</td>
<td>Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development</td>
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<tr>
<td>OHCHR</td>
<td>Office of the High Commissioner for Human Rights</td>
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<tr>
<td>PAAS</td>
<td>Project Accrual and Accountability System</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PAG</td>
<td>Project Advisory Group</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PIACB</td>
<td>The Partners and Inter-Agency Coordination Branch</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PSUP</td>
<td>Participatory Slum Upgrading Programme</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>RBM</td>
<td>Results-based Management</td>
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<tr>
<td>ROAf</td>
<td>Regional Office for Africa</td>
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<tr>
<td>ROAP</td>
<td>Regional Office for Asia and the Pacific</td>
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<tr>
<td>ROAS</td>
<td>Regional Office for Arab States</td>
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<tr>
<td>ROLAC</td>
<td>Regional Office for Latin America and the Caribbean</td>
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<tr>
<td>SDI</td>
<td>Slum Dwellers International</td>
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<tr>
<td>SIDA</td>
<td>Swedish International Development Agency</td>
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<tr>
<td>UCLG</td>
<td>United Cities and Local Governments</td>
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<tr>
<td>UDHR</td>
<td>Universal Declaration of Human Rights</td>
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<tr>
<td>UN SWAP</td>
<td>United Nations System-wide Action Plan on Gender Equality and the Empowerment of Women</td>
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<tr>
<td>UN Women</td>
<td>United Nations Entity for Gender Equality and the Empowerment of Women</td>
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<tr>
<td>UN Habitat</td>
<td>United Nations Human Settlement Programme</td>
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<tr>
<td>UNAIDS</td>
<td>United Nations Programme on HIV and AIDS</td>
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<tr>
<td>UNCHS</td>
<td>United Nations Centre for Human Settlements</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>UNDESA</td>
<td>United Nations Department of Economics and Social Affairs</td>
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<tr>
<td>UNDP</td>
<td>United Nations Development Programme</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>UNEP</td>
<td>United Nations Environment Programme (now, UN-Environment)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>UNHRP</td>
<td>United Nations Housing Rights Programme</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>UNON</td>
<td>United Nations Office at Nairobi</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>WASH</td>
<td>Water, Sanitation and Hygiene</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>WEIGO</td>
<td>Women in Informal Employment: Globalizing and Organizing</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>WFP</td>
<td>World Food Programme</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>WICI</td>
<td>Women in Cities International</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>WPAY</td>
<td>World Programme of Action for Youth</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>YAB</td>
<td>Youth Advisory Board</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>YM</td>
<td>Youth Marker</td>
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<tr>
<td>Youth SWAP</td>
<td>United Nations System-wide Action Plan on Youth</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
## Cross-Cutting Markers

### Climate Change Marker

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Code</th>
<th>Description</th>
<th>Criteria</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>0</td>
<td>Climate change blind</td>
<td>Addressing climate change is not a specific Expected Accomplishment or sub-Expected Accomplishment of the project, and moreover. The concept note or project document under review does not discuss climate change.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>Climate change aware</td>
<td>While addressing climate change is not a specific Expected Accomplishment or sub-Expected Accomplishment of the project. The concept note or project document does provide at least a minimal amount of discussion of climate change considerations.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>Climate change sensitive</td>
<td>Addressing climate change is a sub-Expected Accomplishment of the project, and The concept note or project document systematically analyses the inter-linkages between the issues addressed by the project and climate change, and The project contains at least a handful of actions, indicators and/or targets related to the reduction of greenhouse gases and/or adaptation to climate change, e.g., measures to help build the resilience of populations that are vulnerable to climate change impacts, based in part on community engagement.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td>Climate change transformative</td>
<td>Addressing climate change is an Expected Accomplishment of the project, with a corresponding set of actions, indicators and/or targets, and The project contains implementation and</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

UN Habitat | Cross-Cutting Report 2017
monitoring measures related to the reduction of greenhouse gases (GHGs) and/or adaptation to climate change that reflect global standards and/or state-of-the-art practices, and the project seeks to have a transformative effect on how climate change is addressed at either the operational and/or the normative levels, with explicit mechanisms for replicating, upscaling and/or sharing of tools and lessons learned from city-level activities, and evaluating project outcomes.

### Gender Equality Marker

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Code</th>
<th>Description</th>
<th>Criteria</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>0</td>
<td>Gender negative/blind</td>
<td>No reference to gender of stakeholders, experts and/or target group. No reference to current gender relations and/or gender inequalities. No plans to collect sex-disaggregated data in project document and/or log frame.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>Gender aware</td>
<td>Gender Strategy contains gender analysis relevant to context of the project. Specifies gender of stakeholders, experts and/or target group. Plans to collect sex-disaggregated data in project document and/or log frame.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2a</td>
<td>Gender sensitive</td>
<td>All criteria in (1); and Gender Strategy is linked to the log frame with specific activities, outputs, indicators and budget previsions to promote gender equality and/or women’s empowerment. Risk assessment discusses effects of gender-sensitive activities specific to context of the project. Monitoring and Evaluation strategy includes a gender perspective.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2b</td>
<td>Gender transformative</td>
<td>All criteria in (1 and 2a); and Project activities, indicators, expected achievements, outputs and budget are central to promoting gender equality and/or women’s empowerment in achieving positive development outcomes.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
# Human Rights Marker

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Code</th>
<th>Description</th>
<th>Criteria</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>0</td>
<td>Human Rights negative/blind</td>
<td>• No reference to human rights or analysis of human rights situation.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>• No reference to rights of people in situations of vulnerability.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>• No plans to collect disaggregated data in project document and/or log frame.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>Human Rights aware</td>
<td>• Relevant human rights references and analysis of human rights situation.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>• Addresses rights of people in situations of vulnerability.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>• Plans to collect disaggregated data in project document and/or log frame.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>Human Rights sensitive</td>
<td>• All criteria in (1) and</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>• Rights-holders and duty-bearers identified, their relationships analysed and capacity gap analysis carried out in stakeholder analysis.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>• Focuses on people in situations of vulnerability and log frame enables their participation.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>• Human Rights Strategy is linked to the log frame with specific activities, outputs and indicators promoting human rights relevant to project, and for developing capacity gaps of rights-holders and duty-bearers.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td>Human Rights transformative</td>
<td>• All criteria in (1) and (2), and</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>• Includes all human rights principles and standards.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>• Log frame ensures all relevant groups meaningful participation at all stages.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>• Includes strategies to monitor implementation.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>• Budget includes monitoring and evaluation and resources for activities that promote relevant human rights.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
### Youth Marker

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Code</th>
<th>Description</th>
<th>Criteria</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>
| 0    | Youth negative/blind | • No reference to youth as stakeholders, experts and/or target group in the different stages of the project.  
• No analysis of the youth situation in the context of the project.  
• No plans to collect age disaggregated data in project document and/or log frame. |
| 1    | Youth aware       | • Analysis of youth situation in the context of the project  
• Youth recognized as stakeholders, experts and/or target group in the different stages of the project  
• Plans to collect age disaggregated data in project document or logical framework. |
| 2a   | Youth sensitive   | All criteria in (1) and:  
• Youth Strategy is linked to the log frame with specific activities, outputs, indicators, addressing youth rights.  
• Financial inputs assessed to ensure youth benefit as intended.  
• Monitoring and Evaluation strategy includes a youth perspective. |
| 2b   | Youth transformative | • All criteria in (1) and (2a), and:  
• Project is designed based on principles of youth-led development, with youth effectively empowered to design, plan, implement, monitor, and evaluate project activities. |
1 A girl sells food in Accra, Ghana © Julius Mwelu/UN Habitat, 2009.
16 Port-au-Prince, Haiti. An overview of an informal settlement in Port-Au-Prince, Haiti © Julius Mwelu/UN Habitat, 2013.
20 City hills, Port-au-Prince, Haiti © Julius Mwelu/UN Habitat, 2013.
21 UN Habitat Governing Council © UN Habitat.
26 King Fahd Road from an interchange with Mecca Road in Riyadh, Saudi Arabia © BroadArrow. Wikimedia Commons, 2007.
29 An overview of downtown Nairobi, Kenya © Julius Mwelu/UN Habitat, 2008.
33 An overview of Mathare slum, Nairobi, Kenya © Julius Mwelu/UN Habitat, 2008.
40 Fiji, Suva © Maksym Kozlenko. Wikimedia Commons, 2014.
41 Fiji, Suva © Maksym Kozlenko. Wikimedia Commons, 2014.
43 A woman participates in the reconstruction of their homes in Indonesia © UN Habitat, 2006.
46 Puto, a popular Filipino snack, is simply a rice cake © Danakosko. Wikimedia Commons, 2016.
48 Battambang City near the central market, Cambodia © Milei.vencel. Wikimedia Commons, 2012.
53 Students listen intently to reserve medics who came to their school to discuss health care and hygiene, Niger © Chance Babin. Wikimedia Commons, 2004.
57 First Technical meeting on human settlement indicators for the SDGS, Paris © UN Habitat, 2017.
59 Coffee sorting process near Hawassa, Ethiopia. Green beans are being eliminated


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