

# 2016 PROGRESS REPORT



## Human Rights Mainstreaming

# 2016 Progress Report

## HUMAN RIGHTS MAINSTREAMING

### EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The United Nations Human Settlements Programme (UN-Habitat), is mandated by the UN General Assembly to promote socially and environmentally sustainable towns and cities. Further, as part of the UN family, it is mandated to respect, promote, and protect human rights in all of its activities. All of UN-Habitat's interventions are underpinned by values contained in the Universal Declaration of Human Rights that promote the right to an adequate standard of living inclusive of the right to adequate housing. It is also a key agency in implementing the right to safe drinking water and sanitation.

One of UN-Habitat's human rights mainstreaming objectives is to promote the strongly human rights-based United Nations New Urban Agenda, 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. Grounded in international human rights law, the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development offers critical opportunities to further advance the realization of human rights for all people everywhere. It covers a broad set of 17 Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) and empowers human rights mainstreaming objectives at UN-Habitat, in particular Goal 11 on Making Cities Inclusive, Sustainable, Safe and Resilient.

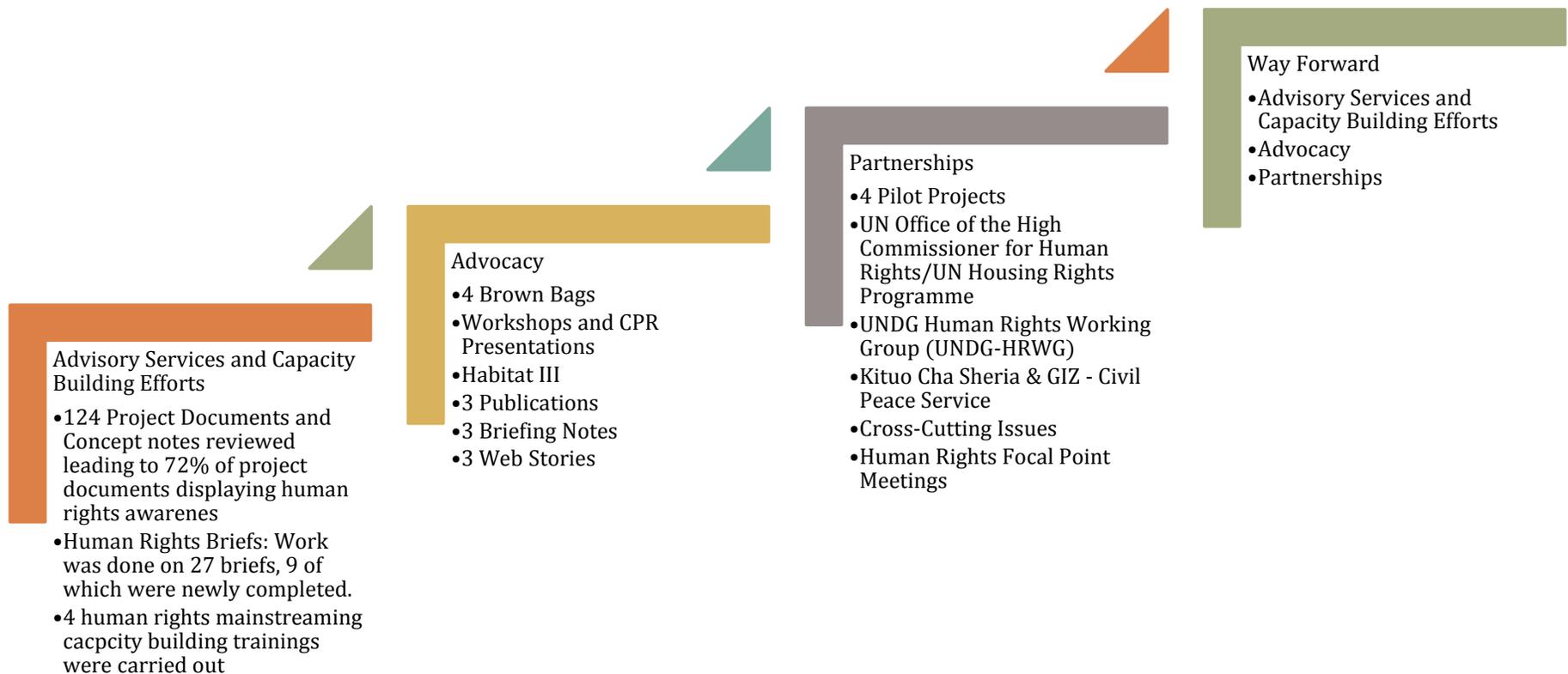
Additional objectives of human rights mainstreaming within the agency are to improve the capacity of UN-Habitat staff and partners to apply human rights considerations in project design and formulation, implementation, monitoring and evaluation, to strengthen the effective integration of the Human Rights-Based Approach into the UN-Habitat project cycle, and to spur the development of tools that guide a human rights-based approach in all of UN-Habitat's activities.

In order to effectively measure these stated objectives, the following two indicators have been established:

- i. Number (and percentage) of UN-Habitat project documents submitted to the Project Advisory Group (PAG) reflecting the Human Rights-Based Approach
  - ✓ By the end of the 2014-2019 Strategic Plan, 70% of new project documents submitted to the Project Advisory Group (PAG) will reflect the Human Rights-Based Approach.
- ii.ii. Number of UN-Habitat project documents, policies, strategies, concept papers, and guidelines reviewed and implemented based on the Human Rights-Based Approach; for each biennial cycle
  - ✓ Substantive advisory services are set as the target to be delivered as measured by the number of UN-Habitat project documents, policies, strategies, concept papers, and guidelines reviewed according to the Human Rights-Based Approach.

Human rights mainstreaming builds on existing knowledge and will enable an increasingly uniform approach toward effective mainstreaming through: i) Advisory service and capacity building efforts, ii) advocacy and iii) partnerships across UN-Habitat's different focal areas of work. This report details progress and activities related to human rights mainstreaming between 1 January 2016 and 31 December 2016 and is structured in the following main categories:





The portfolio on human rights mainstreaming is located in the Housing Unit of the Housing and Slum Upgrading Branch.

The following key colleagues have contributed to the main outputs described in this report: Christophe Lalande, Channe Oguzhan, Sonja Ghaderi, Brian Osundwa Olunga, Tessy A. Aura, Yasmina Guerda, David C. Thomas, Meremiya Hussein, Taib K. Boyce, Stella Nasirumbi, Javan Ombado, Sureka Parfitt-Murray, and, with a special thanks to our cross-cutting colleagues in the units of Gender Equality, Youth, and Climate Change Planning.

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# ADVISORY SERVICES AND CAPACITY BUILDING EFFORTS

## Project Advisory Group Reviews

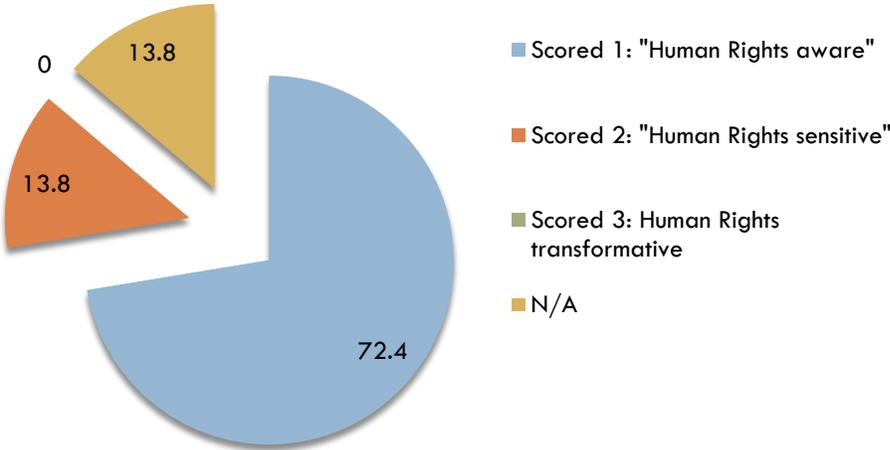
We form part of the Project Advisory Group (PAG) that approves all UN-Habitat projects. We quality assure projects at the point of approval and increasingly engage colleagues at the project formulation phase to ensure that baselines are set both at the Concept Note stage and the fully developed ProDoc. We support UN-Habitat's project cycle, partnerships, and policies and strategies to include a strong focus on human rights. We provide input to the work of our colleagues and through global policy partnerships e.g. including through our engagement in the United Nations New Urban Agenda, the 2030 Sustainable Development Agenda, the UNDG-HRWG, UN-OHCHR/UN-Habitat Housing Rights Programme, etc.

We review project documents to ensure that within the project document, human rights are taken into account and expressly mentioned, that people in vulnerable situations such as poor, slum-dwellers, people under threat of forced evictions, children, youth, elderly, people with disabilities, displaced persons and migrants, indigenous peoples, homeless persons, minorities, persons of diverse sexual orientations and gender expressions, people living with HIV/AIDS, and in particular women in these categories are empowered to claim their rights and allowed to participate at all levels of action and at all stages of activity, disaggregated data is used and collected, the baselines make sense, gender dimensions are addressed and monitoring and evaluation is included within the project's budget.

The Human Rights Marker is a tool to ensure human rights mainstreaming according to the Human Rights-Based Approach (HRBA) in UN-Habitat's Project Briefs and Project Documents. It seeks to ensure that disaggregated data are available to ensure a focus on the most discriminated and marginalized; projects are appropriately located within the international and national legal frameworks, collaboration at country level particularly through Delivering as One and the UNDAF are encouraged; project implementation plans and related indicators ensure broad-based participation, etc.

**In 2016, advisory services were given to a total of 124 documents (58 ProDocs and 66 Concept Notes).**

**Percentages of Project Documents Scores on Human Rights Markers after Incoorporating Comments from Advisory Services**



## Housing and Human Rights Briefs

The purpose of the 'Housing Rights and Human Rights Brief' is to provide a succinct overview of housing rights and human settlements-related human rights of a specific country. It is designed for project designers to familiarize themselves with the human rights situation in the country that they are working in. The Brief outlines specific articles of the Constitution, national and local legislation, and other human settlements-related policies and acts. It further explains specific international legal commitments, with particular emphasis on the key conventions that the country has signed and/or ratified. UN reviews and recommendations, particularly the Universal Periodic Review process, are also outlined. The final section provides information on previous UN-Habitat projects in the country and links for further information and elaboration.

One of the key tenets of Human Rights-based Approach (HRBA) is to ensure a relevant analysis of legislative frameworks and stakeholders prior to project design. In order to guide colleagues on how to integrate HRBA into their projects in a more concrete way than speaking to the importance of human rights principles and standards, we began drafting these Briefs to provide pointers for colleagues demonstrating what initial steps such analysis would entail, i.e. looking at the relevant constitution and other acts/policies, understanding the target groups and disaggregating these for possible and often intersectional vulnerabilities.



**Updated Housing Rights & Human Rights Briefs**

- Cote D'Ivoire
- Fiji
- Haiti
- Egypt
- Iraq
- Jamaica
- Jordan
- Kenya
- Madagascar
- Mauritius
- Nigeria
- Rwanda
- Palestine
- Solomon Islands
- The Gambia
- Tunisia
- Uganda
- Vanuatu



**New Housing and Rights and Human Rights Briefs**

- Afghanistan
- Algeria
- Cape Verde
- Guinea-Bissau
- Ethiopia
- Ghana
- India
- Sao Tome e Principe
- Syria

Many colleagues have expressed their appreciation for these and we have seen them integrated in many PAG reviews since the launch of the cross-cutting markers. Six countries under ROAS have requested these as part of the drafting of Country Programme Documents. PSUP has requested the Briefs to eventually cover all of their countries and have used the shared briefs to support the development of city-wide slum upgrading strategies; support pro-poor urban profiling; and support integration of human rights-based principles into slum upgrading community pilot projects.

The briefs are available for UN-Habitat staff at headquarters and in the regional offices and country offices through the Human Rights UN-Habitat Intranet page: [http://habnet.unhabitat.org/service/human-](http://habnet.unhabitat.org/service/human-rights)

[rights](#)

## Capacity Building Efforts

Capacity building efforts by the Human Rights Mainstreaming Coordination Team constitute Human Rights Briefing Sessions where colleagues are informed of the basic human rights and human rights of particular relevance to UN-Habitat, including their status in the international legal framework.

## Human Rights in Cities Trainings on Human Rights, Gender Equality and Youth

In collaboration with the Gender Equality Unit and Youth Unit, a Cross-Cutting Training package was elaborated, building upon the Human Rights in Cities Training. Consequently, Human Rights, Gender Equality and Youth in Cities Trainings were carried out for the Regional Office of Africa (ROAf) Lusophone country colleagues in Maputo, Mozambique, on 11 April 2016, and an for the Regional Office of Arab State (ROAS) and country offices in Amman, Jordan, on 10 May 2016. Subsequently, two trainings were localized for Egypt and Lebanon.

The table below outlines the projects that were under review and discussion during the training sessions.

### Cross-Cutting Training, ROAf, Lusophone country offices

- Projecto de Apoio ao Alargamento da Base Tributária em Sede da SIZA e da Contribuição Predial Urbana
- Urban Risk Reduction and Resilience Building in Lusophone Africa
- Safer School Programme in Mozambique (Phase II)

### Cross-Cutting Training, ROAS

- United Nations Common Country Strategic Framework UNCCSF 2017-2021, UNCT, Kingdom of Saudi Arabia
- United Nations Common Country Strategic Framework UNCCSF 2017-2021, UNCT, Kingdom of Saudi Arabia
- United Nations Trust Fund for Human Security

### ROAf, Maputo, April 2016

On 11 April 2016, the Human Rights, Gender Equality and Youth in Cities Training was held in Maputo, Mozambique, for UN-Habitat staff members working in the five Lusophone countries in Africa (Angola, Cabo Verde, Guinea-Bissau, Mozambique, Sao Tome and Principe). The training was carried out by the Human Rights Mainstreaming Coordination Team, on their behalf and of the Gender Equality Unit and Youth Unit.

Colleagues attended full-day training. The morning consisted of theoretical and practical sessions on the 2030 Agenda, HRBA, human rights, gender equality and youth mainstreaming. The afternoon consisted of theoretical and practical sessions on applying the UN-Habitat Cross-Cutting Markers of Gender Equality, Human Rights and Youth.

The training in Maputo had a total of **19** participants, of which 4 were women and 15 were men.

### ROAS. Amman, May 2016



On 10 May 2016, the Human Rights, Gender Equality and Youth in Cities Training was held in Amman, Jordan, for UN-Habitat staff members working in the Regional Office for Arab States, and the Country Offices of Egypt, Iraq, Lebanon, Qatar, Saudi Arabia, Sudan, including four Country Office Directors. The training was carried out by the Human Rights Mainstreaming Coordination Team, on their behalf and of the Gender Equality Unit and Youth Unit. Colleagues attended full-day training with theoretical and practical sessions on HRBA, human rights, gender equality and youth mainstreaming in the morning. The afternoon consisted of theoretical and practical sessions on applying the UN-Habitat Cross-Cutting Markers of Gender Equality, Human Rights and Youth in the afternoon.



As a result from the training in Amman, the Regional Office for Arab States is aiming towards rolling out the Cross-Cutting Training on Human Rights, Gender Equality and Youth in Cities in all country offices in the region.



The training in Amman had a total of 10 participants, of which 5 were women and 5 were men.

### **Localized Trainings in Egypt and Lebanon**

The Cross-Cutting Training on Human Rights, Gender and Youth in Cities was further localized and used in the UN-Habitat Egypt Office in Cairo on 5 June 2016 with 3 men and 4 women in attendance. Similarly, training was held at the UN-Habitat Lebanon Office in Beirut on 5 December 2016 with 9 men and 15 women in attendance.

## ADVOCACY

### Presentations and Workshops

#### Brown Bags

4 Human Rights Brown Bags were held in 2016 where experts in various fields deliver a presentation on their human rights area of work and its connection and relevance to the work of UN-Habitat. The Brown Bags take place on the second Wednesday of every month. Due to its success, it was decided to expand the scope of the Brown Bags to include all the cross-cutting issues of UN-Habitat.

#### 1. The 2030 Sustainable Development Agenda

- Featuring Dr. Eduardo López Moreno
- Presentations and discussions on UN-Habitat's role in the achievement of the SDGs and the implementation of the 2030 Agenda, including its strong focus on the Human Rights-Based Approach to development.
- 21 colleagues were in attendance, of which 15 were women and 6 were men.

#### 2. Documentary Screening - Ecümenopolis: City without Limits

- Ecümenopolis coined by the Greek city planner, Constantinos Apostolou Doxiadis, echoes the idea of a single continuous worldwide city as a result of current urbanization and population growth trends.
- The documentary questions the transformation's dynamics featuring interviews with experts, academics, investors, city dwellers etc.
- 24 colleagues were in attendance, of which 14 were women and 10 were men.

#### 3. The Role of the Media in Enabling Access to Human Rights in Cities

- Featuring Mr. Nzau Musau, a Senior Political Reporter at the Standard, Kenya
- Presentations and discussions on human rights of particular relevant to UN-Habitat's work and the role the media plays in facilitating their access by persons in situations of vulnerability.
- 19 colleagues were in attendance, of which 8 were women and 11 were men.

#### 4. The Continuum of Land Rights Approach to Land Tenure Security

- Featuring Robert Lewis-Lettington, Jean du Plessis, Lowie Rosales-Kawasaki and John Gitau
- Presentation on the Continuum of land rights and three implementing tools: the social tenure domain model, participatory enumerations and the gender evaluation criteria.
- 27 colleagues were in attendance, of which 14 were women and 13 were men.

#### Committee of Permanent Representatives (CPR) Subcommittee

On 9 March 2016, we delivered a presentation on UN-Habitat's role in progressively realizing the right to adequate housing; particularly through the promotion of slum upgrading initiatives was made to the UN-Habitat Committee of Permanent Representatives Subcommittee on policy and Programme of Work. A total of 68 people were in attendance of which 32 were women and 36, men.

#### UNDG-HRWG Frontier Dialogue on Human Rights and Urbanization

The UNDG-HRWG Dialogue Series on Frontier Issues was launched in 2016 to provide thought leadership on the human rights implications of some of today's key challenges facing the international

community, and how human rights can facilitate strategic solutions which place the dignity of the human person at the centre of the UN system's efforts in responding to these challenges.

UN-Habitat, with OHCHR as co-lead, organized the dialogue session "Human Rights and Urbanization" in New York on 4 May 2016. The dialogue session brought together **20** participants from UN partners including UN-Habitat, OHCHR, UNFPA, WFP, UNDP, UN-DOC, UNESCO, UNFPA, UNHCR and IOM. The dialogue session discussed the ways in which a strengthened enjoyment of human rights in cities for all can facilitate strategic, sustainable and inclusive solutions, with a view to implementing the 2030 Agenda, and reaching the targets of the Sustainable Development Goals, in particular Goal 11. It resulted in an outcome document with recommendations which will inform the UNDG Inter-Agency Workshop later in 2016

### **National Workshop on Enhancing Inclusive Development in the Framework of the UNDRIP**

In November 2016, the human rights coordination team participated in a 2 day workshop in Nairobi facilitated by the UN Permanent Forum on Indigenous Issues, and UNDESA/DSPD that provided a brief overview of the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples (UNDRIP), including its history and key elements; to explore new opportunities to advance inclusive development in the framework of the UNDRIP that are presented by the Outcome Document of the 2014 World Conference on Indigenous Peoples (WCIP) and the recently adopted Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) of the United Nations 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development.

The main objective was to explore advances and challenges faced by indigenous peoples and contribute to solutions and a way forward.

### **Habitat III**

The objective of the Habitat III Conference taking place in Quito in October 2016 is to secure renewed political commitment for sustainable urban development and address new and emerging urban challenges for the establishment of the 'New Urban Agenda' (NUA). We reviewed the HABITAT III Zero Draft of the NUA and the realization of human rights, including the right to adequate housing, are important components of it. One of the proposed eight guiding principles is the promotion of a new urbanization model that contains mechanisms and procedures that respect, protect and promote human rights, through the Human Rights-Based Approach to urbanization.

### **Policy Framework – Issue Paper No.1**

We have provided input to the Habitat III Issue Paper on the Right to the City and Cities for All. The Habitat III Issue Papers are summary documents that address one or more research areas, highlight general findings, and identify research needs on topics related to housing and sustainable urban development. The Issue Papers are prepared by United Nations Task Team on Habitat III, a task force of UN agencies and programmes, as well as several experts and organizations related to the different topics. The methodology of elaboration of the Issue Papers is in line with the elaboration of the compendium of issues briefs prepared by the United Nations inter-agency Technical Support Team for the United Nations General Assembly Open Working Group on Sustainable Development Goals.

### **Thematic Meeting on Informal Settlements**

On April 7-8 2016, we attended the Habitat III Thematic Meeting on Informal Settlements in Pretoria and made a presentation on the Role of UN-Habitat in the Progressive Realization of the Right to

Adequate Housing, Particularly through Slum Upgrading Initiatives where **26** representatives from various organizations were in attendance.

### Special Session: Issue Paper 20 on Housing

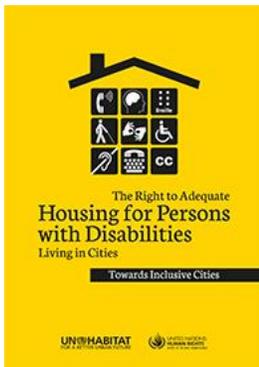
In October 2016, we coordinated this Special Session with OHCHR, UNOPS, WHO and UN Women, which enhanced awareness among urban decision-makers on the importance of placing housing at the centre of urban planning, legislation and economy. Some concrete ideas were put forth towards positioning housing at the centre of urban planning, and ensuring the centrality of the right to adequate housing in the NUA. Concrete elements of **the right to adequate housing** were a part of the discussion, in particular affordability, availability and security of tenure.

### Side Event Housing at the Centre of Sustainable Development

In October, 2016, we coordinated this side event with UNDP that maintained that Housing and cities are at the centre of the 2030 Sustainable Development Agenda. Achieving such standards for all and without discrimination will require strong political will at the national and at the local level, in addition to extensive public intervention on policy and planning, and public financial investments to provide affordable housing for the masses. Thus, this event explored the role of both governments and new actors, including civil society and private sector organizations in realizing SDG target 11.1: ensuring access to adequate, safe and affordable housing for all.

## Publications

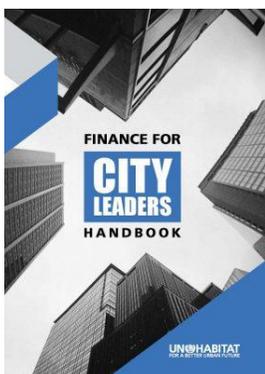
### The Right to Adequate Housing for Persons with Disabilities living in Cities



Persons with disabilities are disproportionately represented in the poorest quintile of the population, and face additional challenges due to discriminatory laws and policies, environmental barriers, and lack of support services that would enable the enjoyment of the right to adequate housing on an equal basis with others. This study reviews the literature on the meaning and impact of the right to adequate housing for persons with disabilities in cities.

The publication can be accessed through the following link: <http://unhabitat.org/books/the-right-to-adequate-housing-for-persons-with-disabilities-living-in-cities/>

### Chapter in the Finance for City Leaders Handbook



In collaboration with the Gender Equality Unit and Youth Unit, we are drafting a chapter on the cross-cutting issues of human rights, gender equality and youth in urban economy, for a Handbook for City Leaders commissioned by the Urban Economy Branch. The human rights section in the chapter focuses on the importance of human rights and applying a Human Rights-Based Approach to municipal finance by city leaders, to ensure better revenue and expenditure patterns that reach people in vulnerable situations and the furthest behind first.

The publication can be accessed through the following link: <https://unhabitat.org/books/finance-for-city-leaders-handbook/>



## Cross-cutting Issues Progress Report 2016

The Cross-cutting Progress Report 2016 covers UN-Habitat's activities and achievements, during the course of 2016, in the way of its four cross-cutting issues: climate change, gender, human rights, and youth. The Report presents an overview of the mandate and structure of each of the cross-cutting issues, as well as presenting case studies of the Agency's work on the ground relating to these issues.

The publication can be accessed through the following link:  
<http://unhabitat.org/books/2016-cross-cutting-progress-report/>

## Briefing Notes

3 Briefing Notes were developed in 2016 and are available on-line and on the UN-Habitat intranet. The Briefing Notes are on thematic areas of relevance to the UN-Habitat's programmes and operations and the human rights or relevance to UN-Habitat.

### Housing Affordability and Financial Inclusion

The briefing note references **Affordability** as one of the seven components of the right to adequate housing.

### The Sustainable Development Agenda

The Briefing Note references the Sustainable Development Goals as building on the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs) eight targets that the world committed to achieving by 2015.

### The Right to Adequate Housing

Adequate housing was recognized as part of the **right to an adequate standard of living** in the 1948 Universal Declaration of Human Rights and in the 1966 International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights. Subsequently, several constitutions protect the right to adequate housing or outline the State's general responsibility to ensure adequate housing and living conditions for all. Courts from various legal systems have also adjudicated cases related to its enjoyment, covering, for instance, forced evictions, tenant protection, discrimination in the housing sphere or access to basic housing-related services.

## Web Stories

### Harnessing the Power of Indigenous Cultures for Better Cities

When it comes to developing policies and programmes, national and local decision-makers must therefore ensure that indigenous communities' rights are taken into account, and it starts with non-discriminatory access to urban services, including culturally-adequate housing solutions.

<https://unhabitat.org/harnessing-the-power-of-indigenous-cultures-for-better-cities/>

### Our common responsibility to improve the city experience for PWDs

For inclusive cities and the realization of the right to adequate housing for all, national and city governments must adopt and enforce non-discriminatory policies in accordance with the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities, ensure the collection of disability-disaggregated data for

proper evidence-based policies and programmes, facilitate access to economic resources and opportunities, and adopt adequate building codes.

<https://unhabitat.org/our-common-responsibility-to-improve-the-city-experience-for-persons-living-with-disabilities/>

**More than four walls and a roof...**

Adequate housing is a cornerstone for accessing many other opportunities and basic rights and, in many ways; it defines who we are and who we can be. Only by finding ways to secure adequate housing for the millions who are still coping through inadequate solutions, will we be able to build sustainable cities that are inclusive and truly for all.

<https://unhabitat.org/more-than-four-walls-and-a-roof-adequate-housing-a-human-right-that-can-unlock-many-others/>

## **PARTNERSHIPS**

### **In-House Agreements of Cooperation on Human Rights Mainstreaming Pilot Projects**

The Human Rights Mainstreaming Coordination Team invited UN-Habitat colleagues working in headquarters as well as regional- and country offices to submit human rights mainstreaming project proposals. Successful project proposals were to outline how such additional funding will ensure a strengthened attention - in new and existing projects - to respect, protect and fulfil human rights in project activities, and when creating the evidence base for reporting on results and impact.

Project proposals were submitted in line with the 2003 United Nations Common Understanding on the Human Rights-Based Approach (HRBA) to Development Cooperation, and within the purview of the mandate of UN-Habitat. Project proposals were also formulated within the context of the UN-Habitat 2014-19 Strategic Plan (outputs as defined in the 2016-17 Work Plan and Budget), and UN-Habitat's three-pronged approach to sustainable urban development, including the on-going formulation of the United Nations New Urban Agenda and the 2030 Sustainable Development Agenda, in particular Sustainable Development Goal 11.

11 project proposals were received and the following 4 project proposals were chosen for funding through the human rights mainstreaming window of the UN-Habitat Programme Cooperation Agreement with Sweden:

- 1 Integration of the Human Rights-Based Approach in WASH governance in order to enhance capacity for Sub-national level in Cambodia
- 2 Mainstreaming Human Rights for Youth Leaders at the One Stope Youth Centre, Mogadishu
- 3 Access and Mobility: The Implication of Universal Access on Groups in Vulnerable Situations in Nairobi
- 4 Human Rights for Hebron, Palestine

Contracts were signed in 2016 for all four projects, with only one project commencing activities the same year (Cambodia) the other three are set to begin rolling out implementation activities in 2017 **(See chapter on Way Forward)**.

#### **Integration of the HRBA in WASH Governance to Enhance the Sub-national Level Capacity in Cambodia**

In phase one, a workshop was held on 18-29 December, 2016 in Pursat, Kampong Thom, Kampong Cham, Svay Rieng cities. The objectives of the workshop were to:

- ❖ To review and present the results of capacity gap and needs assessment for water and sanitation sector at target cities that was conducted at sub-national levels on February 16-19, 2016 and sustainability check of Mekong Regional Water and Sanitation Initiative in January 2016.
- ❖ To provide based understanding and knowledge on human right based approach for water and sanitation sector;
- ❖ To present and consult on the content of WASH guideline preparation;
- ❖ To seek inputs from the participants on WASH guideline preparation; and
- ❖ To provide basic understanding on water supply production and sanitation.

Participants were mainly from sub-national level institutions, namely, the Ministry of Industry and Handicrafts; Provincial Councilors and Officials; Provincial Department of Industry and Handicraft, Water Supply Office, DIH, Municipality Councilors and Officials, Sangkat Councilors, Provincial Water Supply Utility, Provincial Department of Rural Development, Provincial D&D Capacity building/training advisors, NGOs and CSOs work on WASH at provincial level and UN-Habitat consultants.

The result was a draft guideline designed for the government institutions at a sub-national level including provincial councilors/administration, district, and commune leaders. Once finalized, it will also be useful for professionals working for service providers including water utilities, local authorities, communities and the private sector. It aims to provide understanding on the importance of the WASH sector and knowledge of implementing water, sanitation and hygiene issues in local development factors.

### UN Office of the High Commissioner for Human Rights/UN Housing Rights Programme

The United Nations Housing Rights Programme (UNHRP) was established in 2002, as a joint initiative by UN-Habitat and the UN Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights (OHCHR). The purpose of the UNHRP is to assist States and other stakeholders with the implementation of their commitments in the Habitat Agenda to ensure the full and progressive realization of the right to adequate housing as provided for in international instruments. Normative work focused strongly on alternatives to forced evictions as well as the need for eviction impact assessments before, during and after evictions.

### UNDG Human Rights Working Group (UNDG-HRWG)

UN-Habitat actively participates in the UNDG Human Rights Working Group (HRWG). The UNDG-HRWG aims to integrate human rights in the UN's development work. The overall objectives of the UNDG-HRWG are to bolster system-wide coherence, collaboration and support for Resident Coordinators and UN country teams, so that they can better provide support to Member States to strengthen national capacity for the promotion and protection of human rights. Also, it acts as the lead mechanism through which the UNDG can effectively deliver on the responsibilities and demands made on the UN development system by the Human Rights Up Front initiative. The UNDG-HRWG plays a catalytic role in making the UNDG 'Fit for Purpose' to deliver a human rights-based development agenda firmly anchored in universal norms and standards through:

- ❖ Providing a policy forum for policy coherence in human rights mainstreaming across the UN development system.
- ❖ Making human rights expertise available to national development actors and processes, anchored in strong human rights leadership by Resident Coordinators and UN Country Teams with strengthened capacity and support structures.
- ❖ Acting as the lead mechanism through which the UNDG can effectively deliver on the responsibilities and demands made on the UN development system by the Human Rights Up Front initiative.

We have been participating in the UNDG-HRWG task team meetings on a regular basis to provide input on e.g. the Work Plan of the HRWG with proposed leads, the UNDAF Guidance Draft 1.0, and by organizing a UNDG-HRWG Dialogue Session on Frontier Issues with the theme "Human Rights and Urbanization" with the co-lead of OHCHR. The UNDAF Guidance Draft provides guidance for a new generation of UNDAFs that support national efforts to implement the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development by translating these UNDG commitments into effective country-level interventions by

UNCTs. To this end, this guidance defines the basic requirements that this new generation of UNDAFs needs to meet.

### **Kituo Cha Sheria & GIZ - Civil Peace Service**

Kituo Cha Sheria (KITUO) is a human rights Non-governmental organization. KITUO's services are provided to the poor and marginalized through various strategies, which include but not limited to provision of legal advice, legal representation, litigation, and community mobilization and organization. The GIZ - Civil Peace Service programme (CPS) took up work in response to the unrest following Kenya's presidential elections in 2007/08. The programme seconds experts to advise Kenyan institutions and supports their work through subsidies. In keeping with the principles of holistic conflict resolution, it integrates various levels of conflict and a range of approaches in its operations.

We began collaborating with both these organizations that are largely involved in responding to the IDP situation in Kenya in December 2016. Dialogues were subsequently held to establish linkages in our work and dialogues on future collaboration in 2017.

### **Mediterranean City-to-City Migration (MC2CM) Project**

Internal and international migration movements in the greater Mediterranean region have a direct and long-lasting impact on the development of urban areas in the region, as these are often the actual destinations of migrant populations. In order to maximize the social and economic development potential of these migrant populations cities need effective migration governance capacities, particularly in view of the provision of access to rights and services.

In this context, the Mediterranean City-to-City Migration (MC2CM) project aims at contributing to improved migration governance at city level, notably in a network of cities in Europe and in the Southern Mediterranean region. The project funded by the European Union (EU) and co-funded by the Swiss Development Cooperation (SDC), is implemented by a consortium led by the International Centre for Migration Policy Development (ICMPD) in partnership with the United Cities and Local Governments Network (UCLG) and the United Nations Human Settlements Programme (UN-HABITAT), and with the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR) as associate partner. The MC2CM City Network is composed of the cities of Amman, Beirut, Lisbon, Lyon, Madrid, Tangier, Turin, Tunis, and Vienna.

Project activities are grouped in a dialogue component, which facilitates the exchange of experiences and policy options among the cities, a research component, which takes stock of the migration situation in the participating cities, and an action-oriented component, which produces a toolkit compiling policy options for migration governance at local level, and offers pilot projects in the Southern cities participating in the project. As an outcome of the Pilot Projects, the participating Southern cities will benefit from improved technical expertise and concrete instruments to improve local migration governance in the respective city.

The Dialogue Component comprises of seven thematic Peer-to-Peer Meetings, covering topics defined as priorities by the cities. Up until 2016, the following missions have been undertaken with a thematic focus on:

- Social Cohesion, Interreligious and Inter-cultural Dialogue (Lisbon, July 2016);
- Employment and Entrepreneurship (Madrid, November 2016);
- The Enjoyment of Human Rights and Access to Basic Services (Tangiers, November 2016).

### **Cross-Cutting Issues**

The overall goal of mainstreaming UN-Habitat's cross-cutting issues (climate change, gender, the Human Rights-Based Approach, and youth) is to strengthen programmatic synergies while ensuring that project outcomes reach all intended beneficiaries, particularly persons in vulnerable situations.



We engage and collaborate with the work of colleagues across branches and the other cross-cutting issues of gender, youth and climate change, of which the UN-Habitat Cross-Cutting Markers has been an important outcome. As a result, an effective integration of cross-cutting issues increasingly enabled the replication and up-scaling of projects. Cross-cutting meetings take place on every last Wednesday of the month.

### Human Rights Focal Point Meetings

Monthly human rights focal points meetings at the branch level have been convened where information and initiatives are being shared. The meetings are convened on a quarterly basis, with monthly updates on human rights activities disseminated by e-mail.

## **WAY FORWARD**

### **Advisory Services and Capacity Building Efforts**

#### **PAG Monitoring and Evaluation**

Moving forward one of the crucial steps to follow up on the Human Rights Marker implemented to ensure that projects are human rights aware at the beginning of a project is to Institutionalize human rights mainstreaming tool to ensure human rights-based monitoring and evaluation of UN-Habitat's projects and activities as there is a gap and lack of accountability and tracking of whether projects continue to be human rights aware, sensitive and transformative during implementation as well as at project completion.

#### **Adequate Response Network to Forced Evictions**

In many countries unlawful evictions of squatters, low-income renters, indigenous peoples and other vulnerable groups with inadequate or no legal security of tenure are carried out with relative ease. In 2004 UN-HABITAT responded to this problem by establishing the Advisory Group on Forced Evictions (AGFE) that reports to the Executive Director of UN-HABITAT which was later disbanded in 2011. The Advisory Group's mandate was to monitor forced evictions and to identify and promote alternatives such as in situ upgrading and negotiated resettlement.

We receive numerous requests regionally and globally to be more involved in forced evictions that are taking place daily, however, there is no longer an agency wide capacity to respond to this. On a tentative strategic plan, we are aiming toward a similar network to AGFE to respond to these issues. It is foreseen that the network would include members from civil society organisations, local authorities, central government and professionals in developing and developed countries well versed in the fields of human settlement development, law, tenure policy and human rights.

#### **Training**

Using the Cross-Cutting Training package that was elaborated in collaboration with the Gender Equality Unit and Youth Unit, a, building upon the Human Rights in Cities Training, we would like to continue the Human Rights, Gender Equality and Youth in Cities Trainings and localize them in order to reach more of the staff members cutting down on costs of travel from multiple staff from regional offices. In line with this we would like to start human rights mainstreaming webinars every two months that cover topics of best practices of human rights sensitive and transformative efforts and projects.

### **Advocacy**

#### **Publications**

A new stream of work and publications are on homelessness and forced evictions. UN-Habitat and OHCHR is due to release a publication entitled "Breaking the circle of homelessness in cities; a case for a rights-based approach to urbanization."

#### **The Human Rights-Based Approach to Housing and Slum Upgrading**

The objective of The Human Rights-Based Approach to Housing and Slum Upgrading Handbook is to build the capacity of and provide practical assistance to those who want to enhance their understanding of the methodology and added value of the Human Rights-Based Approach (HRBA) in housing and slum upgrading policies, programmes, projects and other types of interventions. The Handbook guides the reader on how to identify different causes of housing and slum upgrading

challenges, and to address these in an empowering and inclusive way for sustainable results. The Handbook is the first volume in the Human Rights in Cities Handbook Series. We intend for each subsequent volume to feature a different sub-programme.

### **Informal Settlements: Alternative Solutions to Slum Demolition and Forced Eviction of Local Communities - Case Study from Africa, Asia, Central and South America**

With the main goal to offer to mayors and city administrators a practical reference tool in cases where the relocation of communities has been considered unavoidable as a policy option, the research focuses on strategies of intervention adopted by national and international actors with particular regards to situations where legitimate national interest plans and urban development projects have been implemented with the full respect and protection of human rights with case studies from Africa, Asia, Central and South America.

### **Breaking the Cycle of Homelessness: Understanding and Addressing both the Lack of and Inadequacy of Housing with a Human Rights-Based Lens**

This report will ultimately provide a set of actions that states can take in order to break this the cycle of homelessness, namely with the acknowledgment that homelessness is a problem that pertains all countries and their governments irrespective of their development state. It will emphasize that homelessness has to be analysed with human rights lens; and in line with the national and local sustainable development agendas. It will be divided into 4 main sections in which homelessness is defined, its causes and effects analysed as well as an analysis of those who are most vulnerable to experience it and finally best practices in addressing homelessness.

### **UN-Habitat guide to field staff on how to handle forced evictions in the field**

This "Guide for UN-Habitat Field Staff on dealing with forced evictions" will draw upon already existing literature on the Right to Adequate Housing (RTAH) and Forced Evictions and thus describe for the benefit of UN-Habitat Field Staff various strategies and resources that can be deployed in situations where Field Staff are faced with forced evictions. The consultant will finalize a UN Housing Rights Programme (UNHRP) "Guide for UN-Habitat Field Staff on dealing with forced evictions". The Scoping Paper will have two parts, a Background Section and a How To Section. The first part – the Background Section – will briefly describe the international legal framework on the right to adequate housing and the prohibition on forced evictions, and all relevant references. The second part – the How To Section – will describe proposed strategies and resources employed in situation of forced eviction.

## **Partnerships**

### **In-House Agreements of Cooperation on Human Rights Mainstreaming Pilot Projects**

Project proposals that were awarded funding that will begin implementation in 2017 are detailed below. We intend to replicate a similar practice in 2017 and expand the portfolio of pilot projects centralized around mainstreaming human rights.

### **Mainstreaming Human Rights for Youth Leaders at the One Stop Youth Centre, Mogadishu**

The project is to put together trainings to empower youth trainers of trainers to conduct their own Human Rights trainings, using the knowledge of human rights provided to them and transfer said knowledge within the One Stop Youth Centre (OSYC). The training session was broken down into three thematic areas: Understanding Human Rights, International Legal Frameworks/National Legal Frameworks and Mainstreaming Human Rights/Advocacy

## **Access and Mobility: The implications of Universal Access on Groups in Vulnerable Situations in Nairobi**

The project is set to commence with sensitization of various stakeholders in the public transport sector bringing in government agencies, industry manufacturers, public service vehicle owners and operators on the increased return on investments. The integrated transport policy will ensure improved access and mobility for the elderly, persons with disability, children and expectant mothers who rely on public transport.

## **Human Rights for Hebron, Palestine**

The development of the UN Country Team Strategy for Hebron has and is creating practical understanding of the Human Rights Based Approach in a complex political situation. This project is set to begin the development of a localized Human Rights 'Barometer' for Hebron Governorate, a results monitoring framework, through a participatory multi stakeholder process of developing indicators based on the availability and accuracy of data.

## **Mediterranean City-to-City Migration (MC2CM) Project**

There are future dialogues (peer to peer meetings), tentatively set for 2017. These are listed below with a brief paragraph of their relevancy:

### **1. Refugees, February 2017**

- Although refugees might want to return to their country of origin, many will stay in the city for good. Thus sustainable integration and diversity politics must include refugees as target groups, safeguard the rights and care for their needs, in particular access to housing, education, health and work. Particular focus should be placed to the situation of female refugees and their access to services. To improve social acceptance, cities should also foster dialogue between refugees and long-time residents.

### **2. Housing and Planning, April 2017**

- Housing does not only provide basic shelter and accommodation, but also is a key element for people to realise their potentials. Bad housing conditions will hamper the development of a healthy city and affect health, education and the economy. Migrants often suffer from bad housing conditions and concentrate in quarters characterized by a derelict housing stock. Migrant women and especially lone mothers may be particularly concerned by such situations. Thus, city governments have to find a way to counter the development of slum settlements and secure equal access to housing for all by combining the positive forces of the market and of public housing, while preventing exploitation in the housing sector through adequate regulation.

### **3. Inter-institutional Coordination, TBD**

- Migration being a cross-cutting issue, it requires close coordination with relevant actors within the city dealing with related thematics, such as health, housing, education or urban planning. At the same time, different levels of governance may have competencies in these fields, such as the municipal authorities, the Metropolitan area, the federal state/ province level, as well as the national level. Close coordination and cooperation with all these actors at city level as well as other levels of governance is crucial for a streamlined approach to migration governance at the city level. Another aspect of cooperation going even further is decentralized cooperation between cities of origin and cities of destination.

Subsequently, pilot projects will support the Southern Mediterranean participating cities in taking first steps of concrete action towards improved migration governance at city level, focusing on a specific need outlined in the City Migration Profiles and City Priority Papers / identified in the through the thematic peer-to-peer meetings and specifically requested by the participating city. The relevant city will steer the process by defining in a short proposal the type of support needed, in line with the priorities identified in the City Priority Papers. Ideas for possible action may also be further discussed at the occasion of the thematic peers-to-peers meetings to seek the input of other cities of the network. Support may include activities as needed, such as expert exchanges, awareness-raising campaigns, migrant information and help desks, migrant counseling, among others.