

UN-HABITAT GLOBAL HOUSING STRATEGY: TOWARDS “HOUSING AT THE CENTRE” OF NATIONAL AND LOCAL URBAN AGENDAS

GEOGRAPHICAL SCOPE

Global. In the second phase, this project will strengthen the on-going implementation of the GHS in the pilot developing and LDC countries (Ghana, Mozambique, Lesotho, Zambia, Myanmar, Guyana, Mozambique, Malawi, Senegal, Tunisia, Liberia, Uganda, Liberia, El Salvador, Vietnam, Egypt, Nepal, Cuba, Mexico and Ecuador). In addition, the second phase will include developed countries where housing conditions have deteriorated or new housing challenges have arisen.

THEMATIC SCOPE

Housing and Slum Upgrading

TARGET BENEFICIARIES

Central government, local authorities, urban poor, women and youth.

PARTNERS

- OECD,
- Cities Alliance
- World Bank and
- Regional Banks
- Regional Economic Commissions (UNECA, UNECE, and ESCWA),
- OHCHR
- ILO
- UNCRD
- UNDESA

PROGRAMME SUMMARY

While the 2030 Sustainable Development Agenda makes clear in its goal 11 the importance of “access for all to adequate, safe and affordable housing and basic services”, this important role and potential of housing remains largely overlooked and untapped as an issue of sustainable urban development. Existing challenges persist, such as lack of technical capacity and financial resources, lack of information, weak institutional frameworks, and a lack of awareness on housing’s inextricable linkage with public health. At the same time, new ones have emerged resulting from increasing urbanization, demographic dynamics, climate change, and the housing affordability crisis.

Goal and Objectives: Drawing on UN-Habitat’s normative expertise and lessons learned from pilot interventions since 2012, this project aims to scale up GHS technical support at the global level and focus on the operationalization of policy responses to increase access to adequate housing and improve the conditions of the existing housing stock.

UN-HABITAT ROLE

In preparation for Habitat III, there has been increasing awareness and interest from countries worldwide on the need to improve access to adequate housing. In countries where steps were made to improve information and policies, the gaps remain in how to operationalize and implement effective responses. This is where UN-Habitat’s support has been mostly required and aims to focus on henceforth, drawing on more diversified resources and strengthened engagement with member states. The continuation and up-scaling of the GHS, in alignment with UN-Habitat’s 2014-2019 Strategic Plan, will be instrumental for the implementation of the New Urban Agenda and the SDGs.

 **MAIN
OUTPUTS**

National Housing Profile elaborated to improve information and understanding of housing needs and priorities. Activities: Establish National Housing Committees; Review and improve housing sector information and define priority areas for action; Conduct consultation and validation workshops; Finalize national housing profile in collaboration with all stakeholders

National Housing Policy and Strategy reviewed and/or formulated to strengthen policy and regulatory frameworks. Activities: Review of housing policy, regulations and building codes; draft of national housing policy and strategy, and energy efficient building codes in collaboration with National Housing Committee and key stakeholders; Conduct consultation and validation workshops as well as capacity building activities; Finalize national housing policy, strategy and building codes, and assist in the approval processes.

Policy and programmes operationalized to improve access to adequate, affordable and sustainable housing. Activities: Build capacity to design and upscale housing supply and upgrading programmes (with focus on affordability, accessibility, health and energy efficiency); technical assistance to implementation, monitoring and evaluation; elaboration of financial strategies for the implementation, monitoring and evaluation of housing programmes.

 **MAIN RESULTS /
IMPACT**

- Improve information and understanding of housing needs and priorities with National Housing Profiles
- Strengthen policy and regulatory frameworks with the review and formulation of National Housing Policy and Strategy
- Improved access to adequate, affordable and sustainable housing by operationalizing policy responses and programmes

 **PROGRAMME
DURATION**

2 Years

 **TOTAL PROJECT
BUDGET**

USD \$882,000