

YOUTH EMPOWERMENT AND MAINSTREAMING PROGRAMME

GEOGRAPHICAL SCOPE

Global, Regional, Country

THEMATIC SCOPE

Youth Mainstreaming

TARGET BENEFICIARIES

Youth civil society, research agencies, the private sector and civil society

PARTNERS

Youths in the city of Kampala, Mogadishu, Kigali, Nairobi, Kogi State, Community Chest of Korea, International Ecological Safety Collaborative Organization, World Bank, United Nations Peacebuilding Office, UNOY, Office of the Envoy of Youth to the Secretary General, UNDP, UNFPA, Search for Common Ground, Norwegian Children and Youth Council, Brazilian National Youth Secretariat, Major Group for Children and Youth, World Vision, University of Victoria (Canada), City of Jakarta, Government of Colombia, Government of Norway, Government of Jordan, Government of Nigeria, Government of Rwanda, City of Istanbul, Government of Turkey, Government of Somalia, Istanbul Municipal Youth Council. Lotte Incorporated, Samsung C&T, Ericsson, Mathare Environmental Youth Conservation organization, Strathmore University, Narotam Sekhsaria Foundation, University of the Fraser Valley (Canada), Canada World Youth, Youth Challenge International.

PROGRAMME SUMMARY

Background: With the adoption of the SDGs and the coming Habitat III conference, 2016 is a critical year to demonstrate the cumulative successes of the youth programme, while as well advancing the programmes through continued focus on excellence and innovation in the mainstreaming of youth in the urban agenda. This year there will be a strong focus on the normative outcomes of the programme in the area of policy and research building on the evidence based created through UN-Habitat's operational programmes. Operationally there will be a continued focus on the consolidation and expansion of partnerships both within the UN system and with youth civil society, research agencies, the private sector and civil society. The support of the Government of Norway has been critical in its catalytic nature, enabling the establishment of key partnerships for the youth programme.

Goals and Objective: The Youth Empowerment Programme is streamed into five areas :-

- Youth-led development programme
- Youth and Governance Program The
- Urban space for Youth programme
- Resilience and Post-conflict
- Livelihoods

UN-HABITAT ROLE

- Youth-led development

In 2016, it is proposed that the Youth Fund will both expand its programmatic and normative work. Two new partnerships have been developed. UN-Habitat has partnered with the UN Resident Coordinator for Somali and the Government of Somalia, and as well with the Municipality of Istanbul and the World Humanitarian Summit secretariat – and developed two new Fund programmes. The Somalia High Level Political Forum held in Istanbul Turkey adopted the idea of a Youth Fund for Somalia youth that will be operationalized this year. The World Humanitarian Summit youth conference, co-chaired by UN-Habitat, is proposing a similar fund to support youth in humanitarian and disaster situations. In regards to the Global Fund, a reduced number of projects will be selected this

year with a focus on youth in post-conflict and humanitarian disaster situations. There will be a strong focus in relation to evaluating the Funds, with an evaluation report being targeted for completion as part of the larger evaluation of the unit by the end of the year.

- Governance

UN-Habitat has also had great success in its continued leading role in developing programmes and research related to youth, ICT and local governance. UN-Habitat is in the final phases of the programme that was initiated with support from the Government of Sweden and Norway in relation to researching best practices in youth, ICT and local governance. This research became the basis for the Innovate Africa programme, which is supported in part by Ericsson and Samsung C&T, which in its pilot phase has established 6 youth, ICT and entrepreneurship centres in Nairobi, 3 in the slums, 3 in the high schools. Programming was developed for these centres – an e-learning curriculum for youth-led agencies and a marketplace programme which brings together youth, academia and Kenyan local governments to identify innovative youth ICT solutions to local government issues. These activities have been used in not only this programme but in supporting the Youth Fund projects, and now being translated into Somali to support the One Stop there. In 2016 UN-Habitat proposes to expand the Innovate Africa programme from Kenya to Somali and Nigeria, establishing programmes based within current centres, as well as new ones such as in Mogadishu. Funding from the Making All Voices Count foundation has been received to expand the Innovate Africa - Kenya programme to include more local governments and youth in the marketplace programme with the goal of coming up with more innovative solutions to local government issues.

Lastly, UN-Habitat will continue to in 2016 be involved in the engaging youth in the lead up to Habitat III. UN-Habitat has been working with the UN Major Group for Children and Youth and UN-Habitat's Urban Thinkers Campuses to undertake events such as the youth Regional Africa Forum in Abuja, and three Urban Thinkers Campuses globally, to gather and aggregate youth voices to be input into the New Urban Agenda. This work will continue on with three more consultation being held in Europe, Latin America and Asia.

- Urban space

The One Stop Mogadishu is well on its way to becoming a reality. Initiated by the Youth Unit, but now operationalized by the UN-Habitat Somali programme as part of its mainstreaming mandate, UN-Habitat has raised over 1.5 million dollars to establish the centre. Currently a site has been designated just off Lido beach in Mogadishu, and renovations have begun. Training sessions and capacity building activities have been held for the youth leaders who will be running the centre, and programmes are being jointly developed between the Somali Programme and Youth Unit. For 2016, the youth Unit will continue to work closely with the Somali programme and other partners to develop the One Stop, with planned expansion of satellite centres in Mogadishu and Somalia et large. Other post-conflict centres are being explored, specifically in Goma, DRC, and a proposal to create One Stops in refugee camps and camps receiving migrants.

The Urban Sports and Spaces component of the programme has as well established itself. UN-Habitat has supported the development of a model slum football programme in Mathare Valley in Kenya to great success. This has been documented in two research reports and a number of videos. This model is being expanded through an internship programme supported by the Korean private sector, where interns have been placed in Mathare and in Rwanda to expand the sport component of the programme. Discussions with the Government of Jamaica and Somali have also developed along the same lines, with Jamaica committing in 2016 to develop an urban space programme, and Somalia to establishing the programme within the One Stop Mogadishu. In relation to normative

programming, the One Stop training manuals first done in 2007 are being updated so as to improve scalability of the programme. Two new research reports are planned for 2016 and youth and urban space. There is as well through UN-Habitat's partnership with AIESEC an advocacy and implementation plan being rolled out in 2016 to promote urban space, the SDGs and the New Urban Agenda, this stemming from the strong focus of the SDGs and New Urban Agenda on urban space

 **MAIN OUTPUTS**

- Increasing the capacity of cities to create safe and generative urban spaces that support the increased engagement of youth in the socio-economic development of cities.
- The Youth-led Development programme supports the increased participation and leadership of youth in the social and economic life of their communities
- The Urban Space for Youth programme focuses on increasing the capacity of cities to create safe and generative urban spaces that support the increased engagement of youth in the socio-economic development of cities
- The Youth and Governance Program of UN-Habitat works with partners to enhance the engagement of youth in decision making at all levels

 **MAIN RESULTS / IMPACT**

- create safe and generative urban spaces
- increased participation and leadership of youth in the social and economic life of their communities
- enhance the engagement of youth in decision making at all levels
- increasing the capacity of cities to create safe and generative urban spaces

 **PROGRAMME DURATION**

12 Months

 **TOTAL PROJECT BUDGET**

Total budget is USD\$1.5m