

Expert Group Meeting on Affordable Housing and Social Protection Systems for All to Address Homelessness

(Nairobi, 22-24 May 2019)

Proceedings





**Copyright © United Nations Human Settlements Programme
(UN-Habitat) 2020.**

All rights reserved United Nations Human Settlements Programme
(UN-Habitat) P.O. Box 30030, 00100 Nairobi GPO, KENYA Tel: +254-
020-7623120 (Central Office) www.unhabitat.org

HS NUMBER

Disclaimer: The designations employed and the presentation of material in this publication do not imply the expression of any opinion whatsoever on the part of the secretariat of the United Nations concerning the legal status of any county, territory, city or area or its authorities, or concerning the delimitation of its frontiers or boundaries regarding its economic system or degree of development. Excerpts may be reproduced without authorization, on condition that the source is indicated. Views expressed in this publication do not necessarily reflect those of the United Nations Human Settlements Programme, the United Nations and its Member States.

Foreword

Following the 57th session of the Commission for Social Development (2019),¹ the United Nations Economic and Social Council, in its resolution 2019/4 (see [E/RES/2019/4](#)), decided that the priority theme of the 58th session (2020) of the Commission would be “Affordable housing and social protection systems for all to address homelessness”. In this context and in preparation for the 58th session of the Commission, the United Nations Department of Economic and Social Affairs, in collaboration with the United Nations Human Settlements Programme, organized a three-day Expert Group Meeting in Nairobi to review major drivers of homelessness, identify existing gaps and priority areas for intervention, and make specific policy recommendations to focus on homelessness in the context of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development.

This report collects and analyses the contribution of the experts who participated in the meeting. In doing so, it aims to deepen the understanding of the complex causes of homelessness, the challenges homeless people face and the effects of homelessness on individuals and societies. The report contains policy recommendations on effective housing and social protection policies emanating from the meeting.

¹ The Commission for Social Development is one of the functional commissions established by the United Nations Economic and Social Council (res. 10 (II), 1946) to advise the Council on social policies of a general character and, in particular, on all matters in the social field not covered by the specialized intergovernmental agencies. Since the World Summit for Social Development (Copenhagen, 1995), the Commission has been the key United Nations body in charge of the follow-up and implementation of the Copenhagen Declaration and Programme of Action. Since 2015, the Commission is also mandated to contribute to the follow-up to the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, within its existing mandate. Further information available at <https://www.un.org/development/desa/dspd/united-nations-commission-for-social-development-csod-social-policy-and-development-division.html>.

Acknowledgments

This publication was prepared at the United Nations Human Settlements Programme (UN-Habitat) by Giulia Lavagna, Jesus Salcedo, Alessandro Ercolani, Francesca Lionetti, Lorene Moran-Valenzuela, Aisha Mugo and Andrey Prigov under the general supervision of Christophe Lalande.

Special thanks go to Makiko Tagashira and Hantamalala Rafalimanana from the United Nations Department of Economic and Social Affairs for organizing the Expert Group Meeting on Affordable Housing and Social Protection Systems for All to Address Homelessness, collaborating on a series of preparatory activities, and providing valuable inputs and comments into earlier versions of the present publication.

Thanks also go to all the experts who made presentations at the meeting or submitted papers in advance of the meeting: Cecilia Andersson, David Ayuku, Christina Behrendt, Mira Bierbaum, Dame Louise Casey, Roberta Melega Cortizo, Debra Erb, Leilani Farha, Tegegne Gebre-Egziabher, Ashley Gromis, Saidou Hamani, Thierno-Habib Hann, Roseline Kihumba, Taina Meriluoto, Emeka Obioha, Ifeyinwa Ofong, Marissa Plouin, Jean Quinn, Jesus Salcedo, Valérie Schmitt, Ken Chamuva Shawa, Suzanne Speak, Kerstin Sommer and Fariha Tariq.

Special thanks go to the experts who agreed to have their papers included in this publication. Finally, thanks go to all the meeting's participants for their constructive contributions.

Editor: Olubusiya Sarr

Design and Layout: Michael Lusaba

Contents

FOREWORD	IV
ACKNOWLEDGMENTS	1
EXECUTIVE SUMMARY	4
INTRODUCTION	6
PAPERS PRESENTED BY THE EXPERTS	7
Policies to Assist Homeless, Orphaned and other Vulnerable Children and Youth by David Ayuku, Professor of Clinical Psychology, School of Medicine, Moi University	7
Social Protection Systems for All to Prevent Homelessness and Facilitate Access to Adequate Housing by Mira Bierbaum, Christina Behrendt and Valérie Schmitt, ILO Social Protection Department, International Labour Office	11
State of Homelessness in Countries with Developed Economies by Dame Louise Casey, Chair of the Advisory Committee, Institute of Global Homelessness	19
National Survey on the Homeless Population in Brazil: Giving a Face to Homelessness and Formulating Strategies and Policies to Address Homelessness by Roberta Cortizo, Senior Policy Analyst at the Ministry of Citizenship (Brazil)	28
The effects of rapid urbanization and rural to urban migration on affordable housing and homelessness in Ethiopia, by Tegegne Gebre-Egziabher, Addis Ababa University	35
Eviction: Intersection of Poverty, Inequality, and Housing by Ashley Gromis, Postdoctoral Research Associate, Princeton University	44
Human Mobility in the Context of Climate Change, Natural Disasters, and Conflict by Saidou Hamani, Regional Coordinator, Disasters and Conflicts Sub-programme, UNEP	50
The Right to Adequate Housing in Older Age by Roseline Kihumba, International & Regional Policies Coordinator, HelpAge International	54
Addressing Homelessness Through Public Works Programmes in South Africa by Emeka E. Obioha, Professor of Sociology, Walter Sisulu University	59
Policies to Reduce Homelessness among Women and Female-Headed Households by Ifeyinwa Ofong, National Coordinator, WorldWIDE Network Nigeria & Board Member Habitat International Coalition	74
Affordable Housing and Homelessness: Challenges across the OECD by Marissa Plouin, Housing Policy Analyst, OECD Directorate for Employment, Labour and Social Affairs	79
The Impact of Personal and Family Circumstances on Homelessness by Jean Quinn, Executive Director, UNANIMA International	90
The Impacts of Structural Changes, un-under-employment, stagnant or falling wages and less secure jobs on homelessness, by Ken Chamuva Shawa, Senior Economist, ILO Regional Office for Africa, Abidjan	100
The State of Homelessness in Developing Countries by Suzanne Speak, Senior Lecturer, School of Architecture, Planning and Landscape, Newcastle University	106
Appraisal of National Housing Policy – A case of Pakistan by Fariha Tariq, Head of Department, University of Management and Technology, Department of City and Regional Planning, Lahore	115

CORE FINDINGS AND RECOMMENDATIONS	122
The 2030 Agenda, human rights instruments, and legal frameworks	122
Definitions of homelessness and adequate housing	122
Drivers of homelessness	124
Vulnerable groups	129
Policies and measures to ensure access to affordable housing for all	131
Social protection and other policies to end homelessness	135
CONCLUSIONS	138

Executive Summary

Participants to the Expert Group Meeting on Affordable Housing and Social Protection Systems for All to Address Homelessness discussed and provided policy recommendations on the following core thematic areas, with a view to strengthen the understanding of homelessness and the measures taken to solve the problem.

The various definitions of homelessness

A universally accepted legal definition for homelessness and homelessness-related conditions (for example, inadequate housing, temporary emergency accommodation, and hidden homelessness) does not exist. Rather, countries and local communities often define homelessness based on a motley assortment of social views and policy priorities. Among other drawbacks, the lack of a clear definition makes it difficult to compare the impact of policies against homelessness between countries.



The Expert Group recommended relevant policymakers and other stakeholders at the national and local levels devise and agree upon a definition of homelessness that is inclusive and politically sensitive; able to differentiate among degrees and types of homelessness; and that recognizes homelessness as a



The Expert Group recommended:

- gathering aggregated and, to the extent possible, disaggregated data on specific key features of homelessness
- focusing on quantitative and qualitative evidence to avoid the risk of excluding those homeless who are not statistically “visibly”

Drivers of homelessness

The meeting examined various underlying causes of homelessness in developed and developing countries and identified the major structural drivers of homelessness as follows:

- Poverty
- High- and rising income inequality
- Limited or lack of access to quality education
- Limited or lack of access to land and property, credit and financing
- High un- and underemployment
- Proliferation of insecure and vulnerable jobs
- Lack of access to social protection
- Rural-urban migration
- Unplanned and rapid urbanization
- Evictions and forced eviction
- High cost of energy or health care



The Expert Group recommended the following to tackle the drivers of homelessness:

- Devising or strengthening policy and regulatory frameworks to stifle the structural causes of homelessness at all levels (global, national and subnational) and across various sectors
- Promoting and implementing pro-poor and pro-employment macroeconomic policies
- Eliminating the practice of forced eviction
- Devising policies and normative frameworks on private sector actors

Vulnerable populations

Specific groups that are particularly vulnerable to falling into homelessness include: children, adolescents, youth, older persons, women, persons with disabilities, those displaced by climate change and natural disasters and by violent conflict.



The Expert Group discussed how homelessness affects these groups by analysing the confluence of

预览已结束，完整报告链接和二维码如下：

https://www.yunbaogao.cn/report/index/report?reportId=5_17721

