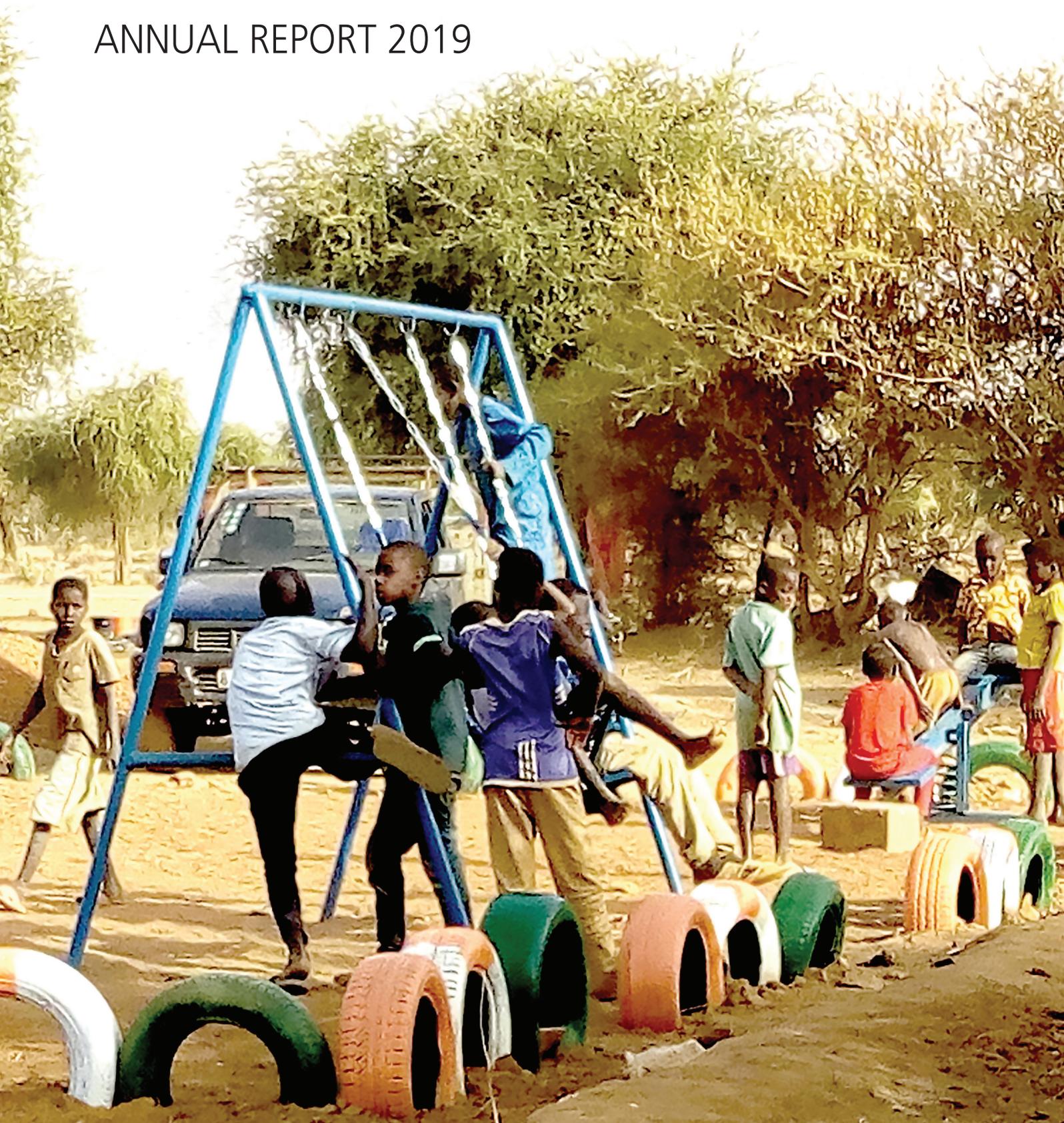


GLOBAL PUBLIC SPACE PROGRAMME

ANNUAL REPORT 2019



PUBLIC SPACE
PROGRAMME

UN HABITAT
FOR A BETTER URBAN FUTURE

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Israels Plads Square, Copenhagen © UN-Habitat / Christelle Lahoud

OUR SHARED PURPOSE



We commit ourselves to promoting safe, inclusive, accessible, green and quality public spaces, including streets, sidewalks and cycling lanes, squares, waterfront areas, gardens and parks, that are multifunctional areas designed and managed to ensure social interaction, human development, building peaceful and democratic societies and promoting cultural diversity. We reaffirm the central role of inclusive public space in reducing social and spatial inequalities across urban areas (formal and informal) and that public spaces have positive impacts on health and well-being.



Transformative commitments for sustainable urban development,
New Urban Agenda

In 2012, UN-Habitat launched its Global Public Space Programme, now active in more than 75 cities across the world, with the objective to promote public spaces as the cornerstone for sustainable cities in order to ensure good quality of life for all.

The Global Public Space Programme adopts a consolidated and integrated approach to public space improvement across UN-Habitat. Over the last seven years, we have developed an iterative approach to public space that includes a variety of normative and operational tools, methodologies and practices that support local and national governments and other partners to make public spaces safer, more inclusive, accessible and green. This includes public space assessments, policy guides, strategies and design principles, capacity building, participatory tools, technology and innovation projects and carrying out advocacy work and actual implementation.

Our overall goal is to support local governments in creating and promoting socially inclusive, integrated, connected, environmentally sustainable and safe streets and public spaces, especially for the most vulnerable. We strongly believe that through our multi-sectoral approach we can create a greater impact on the community and the built environment. Ideally, our approach starts at the city-wide level by understanding the status quo as well as gaps and needs through a comprehensive assessment of public spaces. The data we collect can inform the local government on their city's performance, report on SDG11.7 and create a baseline to develop and adopt relevant planning frameworks and strategies to guide, prioritize and manage the public realm while contributing to the long-term transformation of the city.

Number of cities where the Global Public Space Programme is active



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