

UN HABITAT

FOR A BETTER URBAN FUTURE

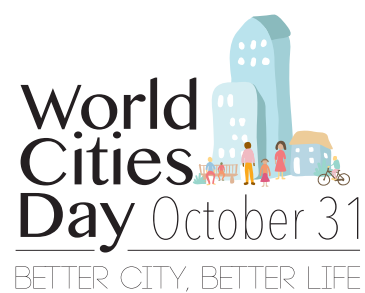


IMPLEMENTING
THE NEW
URBAN AGENDA



31 DAYS OF PROMOTING A BETTER URBAN FUTURE

REPORT 2018







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Introduction

Every October UN-Habitat and partners organize a month of activities, events and discussions on urban sustainability. In 2018 Urban October celebrations began with World Habitat Day on 1 October on the theme of *Municipal Solid Waste Management*. The global observance was hosted by the Government of Kenya in Nairobi. Urban October ended with the World Cities Day global observance being celebrated in Liverpool, United Kingdom on 31 October with the theme *Building Sustainable and Resilient Cities*. Local, regional and national authorities and partners were encouraged to organize activities and register them.

This year was the most successful Urban October on record with a total of 61 countries marking World Habitat Day and World Cities Day, and hosting events to celebrate Urban October.



World Habitat Day, 1 October 2018

World Habitat Day is celebrated on the first Monday of October. This year's theme – *Municipal Solid Waste Management* was chosen as the amount of waste produced by individuals is growing daily and often costs local authorities a large proportion of their budget. Poor collection and disposal of solid waste leads to serious health problems from uncontrolled dump sites and burning of waste. It also results in polluted air and water.

A change in public attitudes to minimize waste and stop littering, the regularization of informal waste collectors, increased recycling and reuse sufficient funding and solid waste planning including adequate landfill sites, can help cities to improve the current state of solid waste management and save money, turning them into *Waste-Wise Cities*.

Global Observance of World Habitat Day, Nairobi, Kenya

The global observance of World Habitat Day on 1 October was held at the United Nations Office at Nairobi, home to UN-Habitat's headquarters, and was co-hosted by the Government of

Kenya. In his keynote address at the global observance, President Uhuru Kenyatta of Kenya stated: "Solid waste management poses one of the greatest challenges of our time in a rapidly urbanizing world," and commended the Executive Director of UN-Habitat for her commitment and passion in addressing the challenge.

President Kenyatta presented five winners of the UN-Habitat Scroll of Honour with plaques to recognize their work in improving urban communities. The winners were: Mr. Isaac Muasa of Kenya, chair of the Mathare Environmental Conservation Youth Group, for inspiring community-wide involvement; Xuzhou City, Jiangsu Province, China, for innovative waste management; the National Action Plan for the Implementation of the New Urban Agenda in Cuba 2017-2036 by the Institute of Physical Planning; the late Dr. Mona A. Serageldin of the Institute for International Urban Development, U.S.A., for her research (award presented to her son); and the Mayor of Surabaya city, Indonesia, Tri Rismaharini for implementing inclusive city regeneration.



“Solid waste management poses one of the greatest challenges of our time in a rapidly urbanizing world,”

President Uhuru Kenyatta

President Uhuru Kenyatta of Kenya and UN-Habitat's Executive Director Maimunah Mohd. Sharif look at art made from rubbish.

The Executive Director, Maimunah Mohd. Sharif announced the launch of a call for action for ***Waste Wise Cities***, which was discussed further in the afternoon by a panel of experts. “This calls for cities, towns and communities around the world to rethink, reduce, recycle, refuse and reuse waste,” she said.

Other speakers during the morning session included Mr. James Wainaina Macharia, Cabinet Secretary of the Ministry of Transport, Infrastructure, Housing, Urban Development and Public Works; Prof. Peter Anyang' Nyong'o, **Kisumu County Governor** and Mr. Mike Mbuvi Sonko, Nairobi City County Governor while representatives from Japan's Ministry of Environment and the World Bank spoke in the afternoon. A technical discussion on ***Waste Wise Cities*** followed with representatives from civil

society, Nairobi City County Government, NGOs and UN agencies.

The day included story-telling, exhibitions by various Kenyan artists using trash in innovative ways and a fashion show of pieces all made from trash. The event was well covered in the media with the Executive Director taking part in a live breakfast show on the Kenyan NTV channel, two pull out spreads in ***The Nation*** and ***The Standard***, a press conference, a large group of Chinese media who interviewed the Executive Director, a spot on Kenya's Citizen television and a feature on solid waste in Congo by Al-Jazeera featuring UN-Habitat.

Global World Habitat Day Celebrations

Some 80 cities around the world held events to mark World Habitat Day. These included:

01

Luanda, Angola:

In the Angolan capital, Luanda, it was celebrated with a conference at the Brazilian-Angolan Cultural Center (CCBA) attended by the Secretary of State for Urban and Territorial Development, architect Angela Mingas, the UN Resident Coordinator, Dr. Pier Paolo Balladeli, representatives of UN agencies in Angola and members of civil society. A project to promote urban resilience in the city's informal settlements through a system of sanitation and solid waste management was presented at the meeting.

A television Debate was organized by UN-Habitat in partnership with MINOTH, on TV Zimbo on the theme of World Habitat Day and Municipal Solid Waste Management on 2 October. Representative of MINOTH, Architect Ana Julieta, representative of the Ministry of the Environment, Mr. Karélia Costa, representative of civil society Mr. Vladimir Russo, and head of UN-Habitat Angola, architect Ana Bragança, took part in the discussion on waste management in Angolan cities, the Strategic Plan and the importance of an integrated municipal solid waste management system that involves urban planning which was chaired by Director of Foreign Affairs from MINOTH architect Ana Julieta.

02

Maseru, Lesotho:

The Lesotho Ministry of Local Government and Chieftainship partnered with UN-Habitat to host an Urban Breakfast in Maseru on the World Habitat Day theme of Solid Waste Management with over 50 participants including primary school pupils.

At the event, the Minister for Local Government and Chieftainship Habofanoe Lehana, emphasized the importance of evaluating environmental awareness and called attention to Vision 2020 where "Lesotho has committed itself to keeping its waste generation rate below 150,000 tons per year, and to recovering 70 per cent of such waste by the year 2010, 75 per cent by 2015 and 79 per cent by 2020."

The Mayor of Maseru City Ms. Mpho Moloi called on participants to "all unite to keep Maseru clean - waste management is everybody's responsibility".

03

Guinea-Bissau:

UN-Habitat hosted Urban Breakfast at the Government Palace of Guinea-Bissau to validate the Bissau 2030 Strategic Plan. This was a follow-up on an activity developed by UN-Habitat Urban Planning and Design Lab in April 2018. Among 48 participants taking part in the discussions were representatives of international organizations, government agencies, and NGOs. The meeting was addressed by Minister of Public Works, Construction and Urbanism, Mr. António Óscar Barbosa. Congressman Mario de Sami and Thomaz Ramalho, Marcella Guarneri and Christelle Lahoud. from UN-Habitat -

World Habitat Day was also celebrated in Guinea Bissau with a two-hour radio debate on municipal solid waste management, broadcast by two radio stations in the region of Bissau *Rádio Difusão Nacional* and *Rádio Jovem*. UN-Habitat, the Ministry of Public Works, Construction and Urbanism, the Secretary of State for the Environment, the Municipality of Bissau and the Waste Recycling Cooperative CRELIX participated in the debate aimed at sharing information about the current situation on municipal solid waste management in Bissau with the local population. The Minister of Public Works, Construction and Urbanism gave a speech on national public television and other outlets which recognized the importance of sustainable urbanization in Guinea-Bissau's development.



04

São Tomé and Príncipe:

A conference was held on 2 October involving staff members of the Housing and Real Estate Institute (IHI) and UN-Habitat. The Country Manager of UN-Habitat in São Tomé and Príncipe, Cesaltino Vaz Fernandes and the IHI Director, José Maria Barros spoke on transformations in urbanization patterns during recent years, changes in housing standards, changes in energy consumption patterns and challenges in urban sustainability.



05

Maputo, Mozambique:

World Habitat Day was celebrated on 5 October with a panel discussion in which partners from Maputo Municipality, Ministry of Land, Environment and Rural Development, JICA, and the civil society organization participated in *Let's Do It Mozambique*, a discussion on how to improve solid waste management in municipalities in Mozambique.

The panellists who included representative of JICA, Mr. Aoki Hideaki; National Direction of Environment representative Mr. Joao Cipriano; and Director of Water and Sanitation in Maputo and of the National Association of the Waste Managers, Mr. Joao Mucavele, exchanged views in an open discussion moderated by Dinis Zacarias Dinis of UN-Habitat.

Panelists concluded that municipalities should follow the example set by Maputo and establish a legal framework for solid waste management. They recommended that waste management be budgeted for, institutional capacities and knowledge about solid waste should be developed, civil society should be engaged in education and awareness raising campaigns, and solid waste management should be included in the national agenda, including by promoting better liaison between central government and the municipalities.



06

Cabo Verde:

Some 40 new urban Ambassadors were certified and joined the UN-Habitat Cabo Verde Urban Ambassadors' family. The ambassadors were selected from the arts, sports, social activism, social service, sociology, architecture, journalism, research and teaching and youth entrepreneurship

07

New York, USA:

1.4 million people face hunger in New York City alone while around 14 million tons of food waste costs almost \$400 million to ship to incinerators or landfills annually. A conversation between restaurant chefs and policy makers to explore and rethink food and its waste, connecting practice with policy, was organized jointly by the James Beard Foundation, FAO and UN-Habitat.



08

Palestine:

The UN-Habitat Country Programme Document for Palestine (HCPD) 2018-2022 was launched on 2 October.

The document will help policy makers and urban

09

Bahrain:

UN-Habitat and the Ministry of Housing hosted a seminar on Housing Policies to celebrate World Habitat Day.



10

Tehran, Iran:

UN-Habitat and the Ministry of Roads and Urban Development celebrated World Habitat Day on 29 September 2018, concurrently with the eighth *Conference on Housing Policies in Iran*. Chief of UN-Habitat office in Tehran Mr. Siamak Moghaddam, delivered a keynote speech on this year's theme *Managing municipal solid waste*.

UN-Habitat Tehran Urban and Regional Planner, Ms. Sara Habibi introduced National Urban Policy and its framework at a workshop conducted by UN-Habitat on *The role of National Urban Policy in the Urban Development Process*. UN-Habitat consultant for the National Urban Policy diagnostic report, Ms. Giti Etemad presented the results of current phase of the study for discussion.

The Environment Management and Sustainable Development Center, Waste Management Organization, Tehran Research and Planning Center, Communication and International Affairs Center Tehran Municipality, and the Urban Regeneration Company of Iran partnered with

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