

# **Human Rights Enhancer**

Human Rights and Development in Cities Human Rights and Resilience Human Rights and the City Resilience Profiling Tool With the support of





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The **Human Rights Enhancer** was prepared by UN-Habitat as part of the ongoing Urban Resilience Enhancer series. In order to promote collaboration and gather valuable inputs, the enhancers are open to peer review by expert organizations working in relevant sectors. For the Human Rights Enhancer, the Institute of Human Rights, Pedro Arrupe -Coordination NOHA Masters Consortium- conducted an in-depth review to provide inputs, comments and suggestions. These inputs have shaped the Enhancer into its current version.

The Resilience Enhancers developed under the City Resilience Profiling Tool isolate the crosscutting themes that underpin UN-Habitat's resilience building methodology into an advocacy and training tool.

The Enhancers provide both an understanding of the relationship between the topic in focus (i.e. Gender, Climate Action, Human Rights) and development, development agendas, resilience and the CRPT. In the case of the latter, the indicators related to the topic have been extracted from the global CRPT and are included in the Enhancers. They can provide a first approach to the resilience related matter, taking into consideration the systemic, holistic and comprehensive understanding of urban resilience that moves away from assessment in silos.

The objective of the Enhancer is to help governmental actors or other partners to assess the addressed resilience of their urban settlements but while putting a special focus on certain topics that need to be addresse, in this case Human Rights. They can be used as a starting point to assess resilience and the matter related to urban settings, and to discuss how to take it further.

### **Using the Enhancers**

The Enhancers can be used as training or advocacy tools within a city by local governments actors or partners. The Enhancers also serve to assess existing tools, approaches and methodologies that are being implemented in the city. The application of the Enhancers is therefore multiple.

#### 1. Initiate Discussion

The indicators extracted from the CRPT (Indicators in the CRPT) can be used to start the discussion around resilience and the issue in focus within the city. An initiating body such as a specific department within the municipality, can initiate the collection of data for the indicators and call for a half-day workshop to validate or complete the responses. Other departments within the municipality should be invited as well as NGOs working in the city, utilities, civil society groups, among others. The Enhancer can as such become a shared project to initiate discussion on resilience. Once the exercise has been completed, contact us to find out how to take it further.

### 2. Snapshot

The outcome of the workshop is a partial snapshot of the city focussed on the issue in question. This can be shared among all stakeholders and used to inform initial decision-making and priority setting. Knowing which are the strengths and the weaknesses in relation to a certain topic within the city is going to allow local governments to think about the appropriate measures to make the city more resilient. All of the Cities that have completed this exercise are invited to share their findings on the City Map on UN-Habitat's Urban Resilience Hub. Sharing these findings will be useful to locate other cities facing similar challenges and to start a discussion on how to tackle them.

#### 3. Counter-check

Many cities are already implementing tools and methodologies to build resilience. The Questionnaire within the Enhancers serves as an approach to evaluate how well the tool is capturing the issue in question. Applying the Questionnaire to existing tools will provide a similar snapshot on the city. Therefore, it will allow cities to assess if their tools need some adjustments or if they are already capturing well the issues in questions. Having a preliminary idea on the resilience of the city is going to be helpful to take the appropriate measures and to counter-check the efficiency of the ones that have been taken





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We stand today at the threshold of a great event both in the life of the United Nations and in the life of mankind. This declaration may well become the international Magna Carta for all men everywhere. We hope its proclamation by the General Assembly will be an event comparable to the proclamation in 1789 [the French Declaration of the Rights of Citizens], the adoption of the Bill of Rights by the people of the US, and the adoption of comparable declarations at different times in other countries.

**Eleanor Roosevelt (1948)** when the General Assembly of the United Nations adopted a resolution endorsing the Universal Declaration of Human Rights.

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