

COUNTRY PROGRAMME DOCUMENT 2018-2021 Sudan



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PROGRAMME
DOCUMENT 2018-2021

SUDAN



UN HABITAT
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FOREWARD

The Republic of Sudan is the third largest country in the Arab Region and the fourth largest in Africa. In 2017, it hosted a population of 40.5 million. Located in North Africa, it is categorized as a Southern Tier Country in the Arab Region, where it shares borders with seven countries, including South Sudan, Egypt, Libya, Chad, Ethiopia, Central African Republic (CAR) and Eritrea, as well as a maritime boundary with Saudi Arabia.

Sudan has continued to experience long-term conflicts and tribal disputes, particularly in the five states of Darfur as well as in the southern states of Blue Nile, South Kordofan and West Kordofan; these conflicts have resulted in an increase Internally Displaced Persons (IDPs). In addition, a large influx of refugees and returns from the surrounding countries of South Sudan, Libya, Chad, Central African Republic, and Eritrea has taxed the country's support and reception infrastructure. The flow of vulnerable populations into Sudan has negatively influenced Sudanese hosting communities, particularly in major cities, towns and villages, where vulnerable people have better access to basic services and humanitarian assistance than the communities with whom they reside. This has resulted in unplanned rapid urbanization in urban peripheries without adequate basic infrastructure and services. Obviously, securing housing, land and property rights (HLP) for the vulnerable population, enhancing land conflict management mechanisms and applying sustainable spatial planning are all key programme elements for transitioning between humanitarian response and development assistance; the United Nations Human Settlements Programme (UN-Habitat) leads in these efforts, supporting the Government of Sudan in these endeavors.

UN-Habitat Sudan Country Office has been actively engaging with key government counterparts, on both the federal and state level, as well as key UN agencies, donor communities and international and national organizations in the country. In compliance with the Sudan United Nations Development Assistance Framework (UNDAF) 2018-2021 and the Multi-Year Humanitarian Strategy 2017-2019, UN-Habitat's Sudan Office has been working on humanitarian, peace building and development assistance for the Government of Sudan under the coordination of Sudan United Nations Country Team (UNCT) and Humanitarian Coordination Team (HCT).

Given the context, we, the Ministry of International Cooperation, the Government of Sudan, and UN-Habitat Sudan Country Programme have reached a mutual agreement to support and implement the UN-Habitat Sudan Country Programme Document 2018-2021 (HCDP) in order to respond to urban opportunities and challenges in the Republic of Sudan. The HCPD shows the right path for achieving the New Urban Agenda and Sustainable Development Goals, particularly SDG11 and related SDGs. We look forward to working together with strong engagement from both the Government of Sudan and UN-Habitat to implement the HCDP. Finally, we agree to strengthen our partnerships and cooperation with multilateral and bilateral partners as well as with civil society as part of implementing the HCDP.



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1. EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Sudan has a diversified economy in which a number of economic activities take on a prominent role. The exploitation of oil since 1999 has shifted the structure of the Sudanese economy from one predominantly reliant on agriculture for growth and exports to one reliant on the oil sector. After the separation of South Sudan, the country has incurred significant economic loss, namely 75% of the oil revenue. Moreover, Sudan has experienced long-lasting conflicts in Darfur, Blue Nile, South Kordofan and West Kordofan resulting in large numbers of displaced people around major cities, towns, and villages, leading to unplanned, rapid urbanization in urban peripheries without adequate basic infrastructure and services. Sudan also experienced the costs of climate change in the form of natural disasters, including floods and droughts. Despite these negative situations, many positive changes have come to Sudan. The security situation has improved markedly in areas of conflict and tribal disputes. Indeed, the Government of Sudan declared the end of the Darfur conflict in August 2017. In addition, U.S. lifted its economic sanctions in October 2017. The country requires collective, well-coordinated, and integrated action to address its manifold political, social, and environmental challenges and opportunities.

The Sudan Habitat Country Programme Document (HCPD) provides a framework for engagement with national and local governments, as well as key stakeholders. It aligns itself with UN-Habitat's strategic areas and its country-level priorities and activities by establishing a clear linkage with the national development plans and the Sudan United Nations Development Assistance Framework (UNDAF) 2018-2021 within the overall global context dominated by the 2030 Development Agenda. HCPD aims to (i) articulate the key challenges in urban development in the country; (ii) provide technical assistance to enhance urban strategies, policies, plans and their implementations; (iii) highlight the needs and priorities in the housing and land sector; (iv) promote basic service delivery and improve sustainable urban environments; and (v) mobilize public, private, and non-governmental partners. A wide range of technical and substantive support to a variety of stakeholders is needed in Sudan to achieve socially and environmentally sustainable urbanization and to promote adequate shelter for all under the post-conflict circumstances. The following points are prioritized in UN-Habitat's engagement in Sudan during the period of 2018-2021 in order to contribute to community stabilization, sustainable development and peace consolidation in Sudan:

- 1- National Urban Policies
 - Formulation and implementation of Sudan National Urban Policy
 - Support revision and implementation of National Housing Policy
- 2- Urban Legal Frameworks
 - Secure housing, land and property rights (HLP) in post-conflict states
 - Institutionalize and operationalize National and Local Urban Observatories
 - City Prosperity Index
- 3- Integrated Urban and Territorial Planning and Design
 - Technical support on development and revision of Structure and Local Plans
 - Urban and village profiling for durable solution of IDPs, returnees and hosting communities
 - Designing and increasing access to public spaces
- 4- Financing Urbanization
 - Promoting local economic development
- 5- Local Implementation
 - Vitalization of local construction industries and income generation; and promote low cost environmental friendly construction technology
 - Upgrading living environment and urban basic services for IDPs, returnees and hosting communities
 - Disaster risk reduction in flood prone areas

2. INTRODUCTION

1.1 Main Objectives of the Habitat Country Programme Document

The Habitat Country Programme Document (HCPD) is the foundation of UN-Habitat's programme implementation strategy for a country. As such, the HCPD aims to (i) articulate the key challenges in urban development in a country and to allow for exchange of experience at the regional level. It also (ii) provides technical assistance to enhance urban strategies, policies, plans and its implementations in countries; (iii) highlights the needs and priorities in the housing and land sector; (iv) promotes basic service delivery and improvement of sustainable urban environment; and (v) mobilizes public, private and non-governmental partners to feed into "Delivering as ONE."

In order to respond to the Sudan National Development Strategy 2006-2031, the New Urban Agenda (NUA/2016), the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs/2015), UN-Habitat's Strategic Plan 2014 – 2019, UN-Habitat's ROAS Strategic Plan 2014-19, and other key policy documents, the HCPD for Sudan has been drafted as the key strategic document for UN-Habitat Sudan. It seeks to identify urban challenges and opportunities and to strengthen governments and key partners at the national and local levels for the establishment of a coherent mechanism for reviewing and developing urban policies, plans and their implementation. In the process, it is aligned with the New Urban Agenda and SDGs, as well as with UN-Habitat's seven focus areas, including (i) urban land, legislation and governance, (ii) urban planning and design, (iii) urban economy and municipal finance, (iv) urban basic services, (v) housing and slum upgrading, (vi) risk reduction and rehabilitation, and (vii) research and capacity development.

The Sudan HCPD also provides a framework for engagement with national and local governments, as well as key stakeholders. A large objective of Sudan HCPD is to open up opportunities for alignment of country-level priorities and activities with UN-Habitat's strategic areas by establishing a clear linkage with the national development plans and Sudan United Nations Development Assistance Framework (UNDAF) 2018-2021 within the overall global context dominated by the 2030 Development Agenda.

1.2. Global context

UN-Habitat has been the leading agency in the implementation of the recently adopted New Urban Agenda (NUA), and related targets among the sustainable development goals (SDGs). It has been working with partners to prepare a framework for targeted action mainly at the national and local levels in support of the implementation of NUA within the scope of the 2030 Development Agenda. The proposed framework, also called AFINUA, has been structured around five main pillars for speedy action by national governments and their partners aiming to achieve concrete results and long-lasting impacts. In compliance with the AFINUA, the action plan 2018-2021 in Sudan HCPD is following the five main pillars, which are (i) National Urban Policies, (ii) Urban Legal Frameworks, (iii) Integrated Urban and Territorial Planning and Design, (iv) Financing Urbanization, and (v) Local Implementation.

Sudan HCPD also reflects the key principles of 2030 Development Agenda such as (i) sustainable coherence, (ii) greater alignment, and (iii) search for result and impact.

In the field of disaster risk reduction, a new Framework for Action on Disaster Risk Reduction called the Sendai Framework opened discussions of policies and implementation modalities boosting urban resilience. National governments recognized the need for prioritizing spatial planning and compact structures to continue investing in building stronger and more livable cities on the global level. Climate change adaptation is also a key theme for Sudan HCPD as the 21st Conference of Parties to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC COP-21) highlighted seeking climate change mitigation and adaptation globally. The Sudan HCPD thus responds to the global context surrounding UN-Habitat's mandates.

1.3. Regional priorities

The Sudan Country Programme Document is developed in line with the Regional Strategic Plan (RSP) for Arab States with the focus on the country specific priorities below:

Part I: Regional Urbanization Trends, Challenges and Opportunities

Part I outlines the Arab states' urban development contexts within the framework of UN-Habitat's programmatic and normative mandates.

Part II: Regional Strategy and Focus Areas

Part II focuses on regional specificities, providing a detailed series of deliverables as well as pointers for good practices. It is designed to promote local ownership and takes into particular account intra-regional diversity since member states frequently experience common challenges facing the rapidly urbanizing world in different ways. It also recognises that good practices may not necessarily be suitable for or replicable in every locality and in every context. The Regional Strategic Plan therefore does not prescribe one particular approach in any given situation, but rather offers a range of meaningful approaches towards finding location-specific, tailored solutions.

Part III: Planning for Success

Part III is structured by a logframe that provides key programmatic details on planned activities, including inception and completion dates as well as information on the budgetary and disbursement modalities. It collects information on best practice for knowledge-generation in order to enable lessons learned from the field to feed back into UN-Habitat's normative and thematic development at HQ.

The Regional Office for Arab States is currently preparing a new Regional Strategic Plan (RSP) in line with the implementation of the New Urban Agenda and 2030 Sustainable Development Goals, with emphasis on SDG 11, "Make cities and human settlements inclusive, safe, resilient and sustainable." The new strategy will be based on analysis of the context of the Arab region and will respond to urgent needs that the region has been suffering from in the past seven years, particularly internal armed conflict and change in the governance. The strategy will work towards implementation of a humanitarian, peace building, and development nexus. The RSP will also be linked and contribute to the next UN-Habitat Strategic Plan for 2020 to 2026.



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