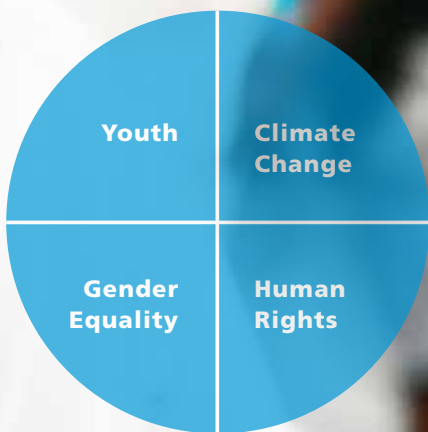


Cross- Cutting Report 2017





UN Habitat is the United Nations programme working towards a better urban future. Its mission is to promote socially and environmentally sustainable human settlements development and the achievement of adequate shelter for all

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Foreword



The challenges of urbanization, particularly rising inequality and environmental degradation, are symptoms of a larger deficit in the respect for all people and the environment in cities. Only when all social and environmental dimensions are recognized and prioritised, will urbanization become the positive transformative force that it is.

The 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development is aimed at 'leaving no one behind' and the New Urban Agenda (NUA) reinforces the vision of inclusive and sustainable cities. At UN Habitat we advocate for cities that work to provide equal opportunity for all residents – female or male, young or old, rich or poor, able-bodied or otherwise, citizen, migrant or refugee. As the global frontrunner in sustainable, inclusive and participatory urbanization, UN Habitat leads by example in engaging the community in its work and tackling climate change in cities.

The four Cross-Cutting Issues of UN Habitat, as identified in the Strategic Plan 2014-2019, are mainstreamed to ensure that all UN Habitat work targets those furthest behind and promotes socially and environmentally sustainable cities. Mainstreaming requires that each and every project contributes to the larger long-term goals of UN Habitat, the New Urban Agenda and the Sustainable Development Goals.

In 2017 the mainstreaming of cross-cutting issues was strengthened, with improved coordination and a stronger presence within our work. The results of mainstreaming and capacity building are becoming clear, with project proposals increasingly focusing on social and environmental outcomes. The opportunities for inclusive and sustainable urbanisation have been recognized at the World

Urban Forum, the Governing Council and other major events such as COP23, CSW61 and the ECOSOC Youth Forum.

The growth of cities creates a unique opportunity to address social and environmental challenges – but this will require good governance and purposeful action from all stakeholders. By working together and learning from each other, we can ensure that urbanization benefits all. We must put a human face on urbanization.

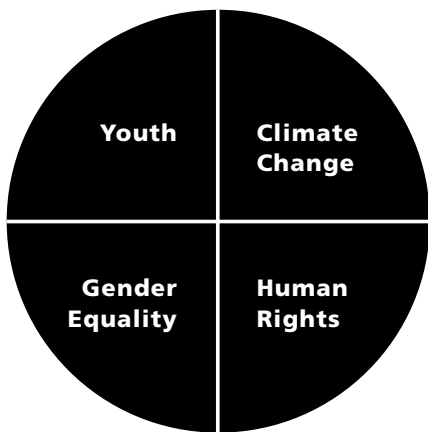
Maimunah Mohd Sharif

Under-Secretary-General
and Executive Director



A stylized, handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'Maimunah'.

Introduction



The UN Habitat Strategic Plan 2014-2019 identifies four Cross-Cutting Issues to be mainstreamed: Climate Change, Gender Equality, Human Rights and Youth. The aim of mainstreaming these issues is to support country, regional and

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