



Cross-cutting Issues Progress Report



2016

UN HABITAT
FOR A BETTER URBAN FUTURE

CROSS-CUTTING ISSUES PROGRESS REPORT 2016

In association with:



Climate change



Gender equality



Human rights



Youth

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FOREWORD



As a part of the UN family, UN-Habitat is the specialized programme on sustainable urbanization. Its work is concerned with supporting the three pillars of the UN: Peace, Development and Human rights. Urbanization, grounded on the principle of leaving no-one behind, is a powerful tool

towards ensuring sustainable development. As such, we have identified four cross-cutting issues that we address throughout our work: climate change, gender equality, human rights and youth.

The adoption of the New Urban Agenda (NUA) in Quito is a historic opportunity to leverage the key role of cities and urbanization as drivers of sustainable development. The significance of the NUA is that it is action-oriented, to address effectively the complex challenges of urbanization. The NUA emphasizes national urban policies, urban legislation, urban planning and design, financing urbanization and the local implementation as key pillars to achieving sustainable urban development. The NUA follows the human rights based approach and highlights women and youth as target beneficiaries throughout. It also stresses the importance of environmentally sustainable cities that can adapt to and help mitigate the effects of climate change. The work of UN-Habitat is closely aligned with the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), of which one is SDG 11: Make cities inclusive, safe, resilient and sustainable. In order to fulfill the NUA and to meet SDG 11, we must address

the climate change, gender equality, human rights and youth in every aspect of our work. Therefore, implementing the New Urban Agenda is essential to the success of Agenda 2030.

2016 marked an important year for the cross-cutting issues at UN-Habitat. All four cross-cutting issues have a specific project marker applied at the Project Advisory Group (PAG) and provide holistic and systematic feedback on project reviews. These markers are used to ensure that projects engage and address these issues. Since September 2016, the Markers have been applied to all projects coming before the PAG. In the final four months of 2016 alone, 60 projects were assessed and provided with feedback. This comprehensive evaluation is unique within the UN system and demonstrates the strong commitment of UN-Habitat to environmentally and socially inclusive urban development.

2016 also saw improved collaboration between the four crosscutting teams, ensuring that work was effective, efficient and aligned. All four issues had a strong presence at the Habitat III conference, are working closely in the development of the indicators for the SDGs and more specifically SDG 11 and are building capacity throughout UN-Habitat and across the UN system.

We are at a point in history where governments globally are recognizing cities as a force for positive social and economic change. To assure this, there must be a balance of how a city is planned and built with who is planning and building it, in order to ensure social and environmental sustainability.

Dr. Joan Clos

**Under-Secretary-General, United Nations
Executive Director, UN-Habitat**

ACRONYMS

ADB	African Development Bank
AECID	Agencia Española de Cooperación Internacional Para el Desarrollo
AGGI	Advisory Group of Gender Issues
AIIESEC	Association internationale des étudiants en sciences économiques et commerciales
CCAC	Climate and Clean Air Coalition
CCM	Climate Change Marker
CCPU	Climate Change Planning Unit
CECSR	Committee on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights
CEDAW	Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women
COP	Conference of Parties
COP21	Conference of Parties (Paris Conference)
COP22	Conference of Parties (Marrakesh Conference)
CPI	City Prosperity Index
CRC	Convention on the Rights of the Child
EGM	Expert Group Meeting
GC	Governing Council
GDP	Gross Domestic Product
GEAP	Gender Equality Action Plan
GEM	Gender Equality Marker
GEU	Gender Equality Unit
GFPs	Gender Focal Points
GLTN	Global Land Tool Network
GPP	Policy and Plan for Gender Equality and the Empowerment of Women in Urban Planning and Human Settlements
GROOTS	Grassroots Organizations Operating Together in Sisterhood
HRBA	Human Rights Based Approach
HRM	Human Rights Marker
HRMCT	The Human Rights Mainstreaming Coordination Team
IANYD	Inter-Agency Network on Youth Development
ICESR	International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights
ICLEI	Local Governments for Sustainability
IOM	International Organization for Migration
LGBTI	Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Transexual, and Intersex
MASHAV	Agency for International Development Cooperation in the Ministry of Foreign Affairs
NGO	Non-Governmental Organization
NUA	New Urban Agenda
OECD	Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development

OHCHR	Office of the High Commissioner for Human Rights
PAAS	Project Accrual and Accountability System
PAG	Project Advisory Group
PD	Programme Division
PIACB	The Partners and Inter-Agency Coordination Branch
PSUP	Participatory Slum Upgrading Programme
RCDB	Research and Capacity Building Branch
ROAf	Regional Office for Africa
ROAP	Regional Office for Asia and the Pacific
ROAS	Regional Office for Arab States
ROLAC	Regional Office for Latin America and the Caribbean
SDI	Slum Dwellers International
Sida	Swedish International Development Agency
SLCPs	Short-Lived Climate Pollutants
UCLG	United Cities and Local Governments
UDHR	Universal Declaration of Human Rights
ULLB	Urban Land and Legislation Branch
UN-SWAP	United Nations System-wide Action Plan on Gender Equality and the Empowerment of Women
UN Women	United Nations Entity for Gender Equality and the Empowerment of Women
UN-Habitat	United Nations Human Settlement Programme
UNAIDS	United Nations Programme on HIV and AIDS
UNCHS	United Nations Centre for Human Settlements
UNDESA	United Nations Department of Economics and Social Affairs
UNDG-HRWG	United Nations Development Group – Human Rights Working Group
UNDP	United Nations Development Programme

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