

# URBAN SOLUTIONS

**UN HABITAT**  
FOR A BETTER URBAN FUTURE

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UN  HABITAT



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# INTRODUCTION

➤ UN-Habitat, the urban agency of the United Nations, was created when two-thirds of humanity was still rural.

For more than forty years, UN-Habitat has been working in human settlements throughout the world. The efforts of UN-Habitat have been focused on building a brighter future for developing villages, towns and cities of all sizes, which are most in need of support in guiding the process of urbanization. Towards this end we have created a new vision which makes a

shift in focus and incorporates three essential urban elements into a new, integrated working methodology: Urban Legislation, Urban Design and Urban Finance, as a three-legged strategy in advancing sustainable urbanization.

UN-Habitat has developed a unique position supporting urban development and the

➤ “Urbanization is a source of



planning and building of a better urban future for next generations. This key process supports economic growth and social development, and reduces poverty and inequalities.

We need a holistic approach to urban development and human settlements which provides for affordable housing and infrastructure, and prioritizes slum upgrading and urban regeneration. We are committed to improving the quality of human settlements, including the living and working conditions of both urban and rural dwellers. We believe this will reduce poverty, and increase access to basic services, housing and mobility.

As we move ahead to the 20-year Habitat III summit in 2016, UN-Habitat's priorities will focus on seven areas:

1. Urban Legislation, Land and Governance;
2. Urban Planning and Design;
3. Urban Economy;
4. Urban Basic Services;
5. Housing and Slum Upgrading;
6. Risk Reduction and Rehabilitation;
7. Urban Research and Capacity Development.

"Governments want us to promote an integrated approach to planning and building sustainable

cities and urban settlements. We are tasked with supporting local authorities, increasing public awareness and enhancing the involvement of local people, including the poor, in decision making."



### Time to Think Urban

UN-Habitat's vision of "urbanization" encompasses all levels of human settlements, including small rural communities, villages, market towns, intermediate cities and large cities and metropolises, i.e. wherever a stable community is continuously located and there are housing units together with permanent social and economic activities, common public space, urban basic services, and a local governance structure.



**Dr. Joan Clos**

United Nations Under-Secretary-General  
and Executive Director of UN-Habitat

development, not just an outcome



# THREE-PRONGED APPROACH

➤ Over the last few years, UN-Habitat has been refining its approach to implementing its normative and operational work.

Within the framework of the six-year strategic plan for 2016-2019, and building on the new vision of the role of urbanization in sustainable development which I have described, UN-Habitat has adopted a more strategic and integrated approach to addressing the challenges and opportunities of twenty-first century cities and human settlements.

This is in contrast to past approaches, which often addressed only the symptoms of the problems posed by urbanization in a piecemeal way. The new strategic approach is based on two premises.

The first premise is the positive correlation between urbanization and development, which I have already mentioned. Urbanization can be a powerful tool for transforming production capacities and income levels in developing countries. It can add quite a substantial input to growth of GDP. However, this requires a shift in the mind-sets of policymakers, away from viewing urbanization as a problem towards viewing urbanization as a tool for development.

The second premise is that the quality and quantity of urban output is highly related to the quality and characteristics of urbanization. Particularly important are the qualitative design of the urban legislation, the physical plan and the financial urban systems. The expected positive outcomes include increased employment, especially among the youth; improved social and economic integration, diminishing of slums, containment of urban sprawl, increased affordability of housing, containment in the proliferation of the informal sector, more sustainable energy consumption patterns and reduction in the emissions of greenhouse gases. Past approaches tended to address only the manifestations of the problems rather than the underlying systemic issues that, once corrected, can produce a substantial improvement.

The strategic and integrated approach adopted by UN-Habitat in the implementation of the new strategic plan for 2014–2019 is therefore more systemic, going beyond addressing only the symptoms of malfunctioning urbanization. It is

➤ of it. We must build a political

## Adequately linking space, processes and resources to nurture better cities through a three-pronged approach to urbanization:



integrated, rather than sectoral, transformative rather than fragmentary, and links urbanization and human settlements to sustainable development by focusing on prosperity, livelihoods and employment.

A three-pronged approach has been adopted that places emphasis on urban legislation, urban planning and design, and urban economy and municipal finance.

These correspond to the first three focus areas of the strategic plan for 2014–2019, and they can be seen as the levers for transforming cities and human settlements into centres of greater environmental, economic and social sustainability.

commitment to accommodate a rapid >



Santa Marta, Colombia © UN-Habitat/Alessandro Scotti

# URBAN LEGISLATION, LAND AND GOVERNANCE



Urban law is the collection of policies, laws, decisions and practices that govern the management and development of the urban environment.

UN-Habitat believes that urban legislation

Obsolete, inappropriate and poor regulatory

预览已结束，完整报告链接和二维码如下：

[https://www.yunbaogao.cn/report/index/report?reportId=5\\_18599](https://www.yunbaogao.cn/report/index/report?reportId=5_18599)

