



UN HABITAT



MAURITIUS NATIONAL URBAN PROFILE



Copyright © United Nations Human Settlements Programme (UN-Habitat), 2012

All rights reserved

United Nations Human Settlements Programme publications can be obtained from

UN-Habitat Regional and Information Offices or directly from:

P.O. Box 30030, GPO 00100 Nairobi, Kenya.

Fax: + (254 20) 762 4266/7

E-mail: unhabitat@unhabitat.org

Website: <http://www.unhabitat.org>

This Mauritian report and project was prepared and managed by Sareeta Suintah - Ag. Deputy Chief Town and Country Planning Officer and National Focal Point for Mauritian Urban Profiling, Ministry of Housing and Lands; Yan Hookoomsing- Coordinator Analyst, Office of the UN Resident Coordinator for Mauritius; Vijay P. Bangaroo - PSUP Focal Point for the Municipal Council of Beau Bassin/Rose Hill; K. L. Santokhee and M. Bundhoo- PSUP Focal Points for the Municipal Council of Port Louis; Mrs Ashwini Rughoodass- PSUP Focal Point for Black River District Council; C. Rughoobur, Statistician, Mauritius Statistic; K. Pang Kin Lam- Project Officer, Ministry of Housing; K. Jayeprokash- Police Sergeant Police Headquarters, Police Planning and Reform Unit; Y. Hosenally- Head Planning Department, Black River District Council; Mrs A. Ghoorah- Environment Officer, Ministry of Environment and Sustainable Development; Mrs Mary Coopan- Local Government Facilitator, Gender Links; Soobhany Sarah B.G.- National AIDS secretariat- PMO; F. Moothia - Project Coordinator, National Empowerment Foundation; K. Moutou- Analyst Ministry of Finance and Economic Development; N. Seenauth- Principal Planner, Ministry of Housing and Lands; Pynee A.Chellapermal- Director General/Consultant, Alternet Research and Consulting; Kirsten Koop- Consultant, University of Grenoble; Dr J. Claude Lau Thi Keng- Associate Director/ Consultant, Alternet Research and Consulting; Lindsay Morvan- Managing Director/Consultant Alternet Research and Consulting; Vahy Ravoajanahary- Consultant Alternet Research and Consulting; K. Valaydon- Programme Manager, National Empowerment Foundation; P. Bojharut- Protection Office Ministry of Gender Equality Child Development and Family Welfare; and M and N. Thannon- Technical Managers National Housing Development Company.

This report was also managed by Kerstin Sommer, Joseph Guiebo and Antoine King in Nairobi.

HS Number: HS/068/12E

ISBN Number(Series): 978-92-1-132023-7

ISBN Number:(Volume) 978-92-1-132483-9

DISCLAIMER

The designation employed and the presentation of the material in this publication do not imply the expression of any opinion whatsoever on the part of the Secretariat of the United Nations concerning the legal status of any country, territory, city or area, or of its authorities, or concerning delimitation of its frontiers or boundaries, or regarding its economic system or degree of development. The analysis, conclusions and recommendations of the report do not necessarily reflect the views of the United Nations Human Settlements Programme (UN-Habitat), the Governing Council of UN-Habitat or its Member States. This document has been produced with the financial assistance of the European Union. The views expressed herein can in no way be taken to reflect the official opinion of the European Union.

Excerpts from this publication may be reproduced without authorization, on condition that the source is indicated.

Editing: Florence Kuria

Photo credits: UN-Habitat



MAURITIUS NATIONAL URBAN PROFILE

UNITED NATIONS HUMAN SETTLEMENTS PROGRAMME

TABLE OF CONTENTS

FOREWORDS	5
EXECUTIVE SUMMARY	6
BACKGROUND	11
LAND TENURE AND MANAGEMENT	13
GOVERNANCE AND URBAN PLANNING	15
BASIC URBAN SERVICES	19
MUNICIPAL REVENUE COLLECTION	22
LOCAL ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT	24
HOUSING AND DEPRIVED AND VULNERABLE AREAS	26
GENDER	31
SECURITY	34
ENVIRONMENT, CLIMATE CHANGE AND DISASTER REDUCTION	36
PROJECT PROPOSAL	
HOUSING AND DEPRIVED AND VULNERABLE AREAS	39

FOREWORDS



According to research published in UN-Habitat's¹ flagship report, *The State of the World's Cities 2010-2011*, all developing regions, including the African, Caribbean and Pacific states, will have more people living in urban than rural areas by the year 2030. With half the world's

population already living in urban areas, the challenges we face in the battle against urban poverty, our quest for cities without slums, for cities where women feel safer, for inclusive cities with power, water and sanitation, and affordable transport, for better planned cities, and for cleaner, greener cities is daunting.

But as this series shows, there are many interesting solutions and best practices to which we can turn. After all, the figures tell us that during the decade 2000 to 2010, a total of 227 million people in the developing countries moved out of slum conditions. In other words, governments, cities and partner institutions have collectively exceeded the slum target of the Millennium Development Goals twice over and ten years ahead of the agreed 2020 deadline.

Asia and the Pacific stood at the forefront of successful efforts to reach the slum target, with all governments in the region improving the lives of an estimated 172 million slum dwellers between 2000 and 2010.

In sub-Saharan Africa though, the total proportion of the urban population living in slums has decreased by only 5 per cent (or 17 million people). Ghana, Senegal, Uganda, and Rwanda were the most successful countries in the sub-region, reducing the proportions of slum dwellers by over one-fifth in the last decade.

Some 13 per cent of the progress made towards the global slum target occurred in Latin America and the Caribbean, where an estimated 30 million people have moved out of slum conditions since the year 2000.

Yet, UN-Habitat estimates confirm that the progress made on the slum target has not been sufficient to counter the demographic expansion in informal settlements in the developing world. In this sense, efforts to reduce the numbers of slum dwellers are neither satisfactory nor adequate.

As part of our drive to address this crisis, UN-Habitat is working with the European Commission and the Brussels-based Secretariat of the African, Caribbean and Pacific (ACP) Group to support sustainable urban development. Given the urgent and diverse needs, we found it necessary to develop a tool for rapid assessment and strategic planning to guide immediate, mid and long-term interventions. And here we have it in the form of this series of publications.

The Participatory Slum Upgrading Programme is based on the policy dialogue between UN-Habitat, the ACP Secretariat and the European Commission which dates back to the year 2002. When the three parties met at UN-Habitat headquarters in June 2009, more than 200 delegates from over 50 countries approved a resounding call on the international community to pay greater attention to these urbanization matters, and to extend the slum upgrading programme to all countries in the ACP Group.

It is worth recalling here how grateful we are that the European Commission's 9th European Development Fund for ACP countries provided EUR 4 million (USD 5.7 million at June 2011 rates) to enable UN-Habitat to conduct the programme which now serves 59 cities in 23 African countries, and more than 20 cities in six Pacific, and four Caribbean countries.

Indeed, since its inception in 2008, the slum upgrading programme has achieved the confidence of partners at city and country level in Africa, the Caribbean and in the Pacific. It is making a major contribution aimed at helping in urban poverty reduction efforts, as each report in this series shows."

I wish to express my gratitude to the European Commission and the ACP Secretariat for their commitment to this slum upgrading programme. I have every confidence that the results outlined in this profile, and others, will serve to guide the development of responses for capacity building and investments in the urban sector.

Further, I would like to thank each Country Team for their continued support to this process which is essential for the successful implementation of the Participatory Slum Upgrading Programme.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Joan Clos'. The signature is fluid and cursive, with a long horizontal stroke at the end.

Dr. Joan Clos

Executive Director, UN-Habitat

¹ UN-Habitat - United Nations Human Settlements Programme



The local authorities who are responsible for the management of the urban areas of Mauritius are faced with numerous challenges ranging from urban sprawl, traffic congestion, environmental degradation, shortage of serviced land, poverty, and squatter settlement. These problems are further aggravated

by climate change risks and sustainability issues of a small island and will demand new approaches to solving them if we are to enhance the quality of life of our urban population.

The Participatory Slum Programme (PSUP) and the Urban Profiling is an initiative of UN-Habitat to adopt a different approach towards poverty and ultimately help to enhance the existing housing policy for Mauritius. One of PSUP's main objectives is to obtain consensus among local and national stakeholders through the creation of a common platform for all involved in social housing upgrading projects. This report has appraised existing policies and frameworks on the urban process and has evaluated their application and impact on two towns and one district, namely Port Louis, Beau Bassin and Black River.

Though we do not have slums in the Mauritian context; unfortunately we do have squatter settlements. If the Participatory Slum Upgrading Programme can help us understand the social and economic reasons why poor people are compelled to squat, we will have achieved a major breakthrough. We hope that through the Participatory Slum Upgrading Programme, we will be able to make a difference and make it possible for those living in squatter settlements to have a safe and healthy living environment.

The Mauritian Government is greatly concerned about the need to improve access to housing for the urban poor and has announced the setting up of not-for-profit Housing Development Trusts for housing construction. My Ministry is also committed to improve the lives of the people living in the National Housing Development Corporation (NHDC) estates and is investing in the rehabilitation and setting up of syndics on these estates.

Government has embarked since January 2010 on a major social housing programme to cater for different categories of needy people in the very low and lower middle income groups.

It gives me great pleasure to circulate the Mauritian Urban Profile to all those who are one way or another

involved in the housing sector and who would wish to contribute positively to improving the living conditions of the urban poor, which is a top priority of the Government.

Dr. The Honourable Abu Twalib Kasenally FRCSEd

Minister of Housing and Lands December 2011

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

INTRODUCTION

The Participatory Slum Upgrading Programme (PSUP) is an accelerated and action-oriented urban assessment of needs and capacity-building gaps at the city level. The programme is supported by funds from the European Commission's European Development Fund and it is currently being implemented in 23 African countries, 59 African cities, 4 Pacific countries, 3 Caribbean countries, and 21 Pacific and Caribbean cities. PSUP uses a structured approach where priority interventions are agreed upon through consultative processes. The PSUP methodology consists of three phases: (1) a rapid participatory urban profiling at national and local levels, focusing on Governance, Local Economic Development, Land, Gender, Environment, Slums and Shelter, Basic Urban Services, and Waste Management, and proposed interventions; (2) detailed priority proposals; and (3) project implementation. PSUP in Malawi encompasses a national profile, as well as profiles for Blantyre, Lilongwe, Mzuzu and Zomba, each published as a separate report. This is the Mauritius National report and it constitutes a general background, a synthesis of the nine themes; land tenure and management, governance and urban planning, basic urban services, municipal revenue collection, local economic development, housing and deprived and vulnerable areas, gender, security, and environment, climate change and disaster reduction, and priority project proposals.

BACKGROUND

The Republic of Mauritius is an archipelago state with the main island of Mauritius and other smaller islands. It acceded to independence in 1968 and became a republic in 1992. 97 percent of the Mauritian population lives on the main island of Mauritius where the urban population amounts to 42 percent of the total population. The urban population is concentrated in five towns and cities. These urban zones form a continuous strip, a conurbation going from the capital city of Port Louis and stretching inland toward the higher central part of the island.

The political system is a Westminster type parliamentary democracy, with the head of the majority party or coalition of parties as Prime Minister who governs the country with his cabinet of ministers. The members of parliament elect the President of the Republic to act as the head of the state.

Local elections are also organized in villages and towns to return representatives to Municipal Councils in urban areas or District Councils in rural areas. In turn, each council elects a mayor or President of District Council to act as chairperson. Their duties are to promote the social, economic, environmental and cultural well-being

of the local community, to ensure that services and facilities are accessible and equitably distributed and provide for prudent use of local community resources.

During the colonization period, Mauritius was a predominantly agricultural country highly dependent on sugar exportation. After independence and particularly since the 1980s, the economy has diversified (tourism, industry and more recently financial and IT services sectors have been extensively developed) resulting in Mauritius being classified as a middle-income developing country. International and internal transport infrastructure facilities have been upgraded (the ancient port of Port Louis and the international airport modernized as well as highways and the road network).

The housing sector has also benefited from this general improvement of the country's situation. After two successive cyclones which left many families homeless, considerable efforts have been made and concrete-walled housing settlements have been built in various areas.

The authorities have also facilitated construction / extension loan facilities for the low income groups. A main constraint however remains that of land availability for additional housing, especially in urban areas.

On the main island of Mauritius, the total number of occupied housing units amount to 313,934¹. There exist no extensive slum settlements as may be the case in other countries and even if some slum conditions of living (mainly insecurity of tenure and high rates of room occupation) do exist, they are not concentrated in large areas, but on specific geographical locations.

LAND TENURE AND MANAGEMENT

The structure of land ownership is deeply determined by the colonial past of the island: land has been the property of rich slave-owners who possessed vast sugar-cane plantations. During the end of the 19th and early 20th centuries, changes in the world market sugar prices prompted socio-economic changes of land ownership in the island, known as the Petit and Grand Morcellements. More recently, the dismantlement at the end of the nineties of agreements guarantying sugar exportations to European markets brought important structural changes (reduction of land under sugar cane plantation and number of sugar estates for mechanization of production) and again some land transfer.

¹ Statistics Mauritius, *Housing and Population Census 2011*, vol. 1, p. 99

The Ministry of Housing and Lands is responsible for land and housing planning and management in the country. A Land Administration Valuation and Information Management System (LAVIMS) has been set up to provide a comprehensive national integrated set of spatial data for effective land management and land use planning. A National Development Strategy has been developed for long term planning with a holistic approach to provide a coherent framework and plan for settlement areas as well as tourism areas, preserved cultural and environmental zones and industrial zones.

GOVERNANCE AND URBAN PLANNING

In urban areas, residents elect municipal councils in charge of local government. In rural areas, residents elect village councillors, who in turn nominate district councillors. Local government of rural areas rests primarily with the district councils, and then with the village councils. District councillors elect a chairperson and municipal councillors elect a mayor (or Lord-Mayor in the case of Port-Louis).

The main day-to-day duties of municipal and district council officers are tax collection and revenue collection, issuing of building and trade permits, organization of welfare activities (cultural, religious and sports), and maintenance of infrastructural assets (nurseries, playgrounds, street cleaning, street lighting, and refuse disposal). The municipal and district councils throughout the island do not have any mandate regarding housing, nor do they have a policy aimed specifically at poor urban citizens. These issues are managed at national level by parent ministries (Ministry of Housing and Lands and the Ministry of Social Integration and Economic Empowerment). The main legal framework governing the municipal and district councils' activities was at the time of the writing of this report, under review. In December 2011, new legislation was to be voted to replace the Local Government Acts of 1989

Utilities. A Water Resources Unit, established in May 1993, is responsible for the assessment, development, management, and conservation of water resources in the Republic of Mauritius. Supply of electricity in Mauritius is solely managed by the Central Electricity Board (CEB) which is a parastatal body reporting to the Ministry of Renewable Energy and Public Utilities.

The Wastewater Management Authority Act of 2000 established the Wastewater Management Authority as a corporate body which operates under two legal instruments, which regulate the relationship between Wastewater Management and the Ministry of Renewable Energy and Public Utilities: the Convention de Maîtrise d'Ouvrage Déléguée (for the construction of new works) and the Contrat de Délégation (for the Operation and Maintenance of the Public Wastewater Systems). The Wastewater Management Authority is presently responsible to the Government for the Operation and Maintenance of the sewer network, manholes, wastewater pumping stations, and wastewater treatment plants.

Though local authorities carry out solid waste collection in their respective towns and districts, the management of this service is entrusted to the Solid Waste Management Division of the Ministry of Local Government and Outer Islands. Solid waste collected from different localities transit through transfer stations, operated by private contractors on behalf of the Ministry, where it is compacted and then transported to the Mare Chicose Landfill site for final disposal. The Mare Chicose Landfill site which is currently the only disposal site in the island is also operated by a private contractor. In general, scavenging services are provided by Local Authorities in the areas falling under their respective jurisdictions.

MUNICIPAL REVENUE COLLECTION

The Constitution of Mauritius provides for a local

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_18823

