

**UN-Habitat Contributions to the UN Secretary-General's report
(General Assembly resolution 72/247)**

1. Toolkit on How Human Rights are linked to the SDGs and New Urban Agenda (over 26,000 downloads)

This toolkit outlines the key Human Rights frameworks, the New Urban Agenda and the Sustainable Development Goals all in line with UN-Habitat's mandate to promote socially and environmentally sustainable towns and cities with the goal of providing adequate shelter for all.

It is used in the planning and design, implementation, and the monitoring and evaluation phases of all interventions within the context of urban development. We envisage that all working in this field whether through devising policies or procedures, planning and developing projects and programmes or delivering services will benefit from this toolkit.

<https://unhabitat.org/new-urban-agenda-and-the-sustainable-development-goals-to-human-rights-brochure/>

2. Mainstreaming Human Rights for Youth Leaders at the One Stop Youth Centre, Mogadishu

UN-Habitat's Housing Unit and the Somalia Country Programme implemented a project to mainstream human rights for youth leaders at the Mogadishu One-stop Youth Centre (MOSYC). The One Stop Youth Centre in Mogadishu provides youth with a safe and inclusive space where they can meet and take the lead in their own development and that of their urban environment. By cultivating institutional capacity on human rights, at the MOSYC youth were also provided with a platform that enables them to participate so that their rights.

This project aimed to:

- Strategically select well placed youth leaders and equip them with the knowledge of human rights concepts;
- Apply international and national human rights frameworks, learn different advocacy methods;
- Build their capacities to mainstream human rights within the youth centre.

The project trained 5 youth leaders in the Banadir Regional Youth Association (BARYA). Upon the completion of the training, the 5 went on to train 13 other vulnerable youth from 6 districts through Shaqeyso Programme on human rights (30 youth from each of the 6 districts).

A voluntary youth human rights committee (YHRC) was also created. It includes Youth Leaders, BARYA and MOSYC Youth Advisory Board in Mogadishu. The members of the committee are strategically selected and well placed youth leaders equipped with the knowledge and tools to continue further capacity development as trained trainers. The committee is also tasked with organizing and facilitating dialogues, forums and debate around the key issues that affect young people by enhancing their understanding of how to influence decision-making processes that affect them.

3. Integration of the Human Rights-Based Approach in WASH governance to enhance capacity for Sub-national level in Cambodia

UN-Habitat's Cambodia Country Programme implemented a project that aimed to harmonize WASH governance with the human rights-based approach to enhance the capacity of sub-national level stakeholders in the region. There were 4 target municipalities (Pursat, Kampong, Svay Rieng and Phnom Penh) and 20 communes with around 200 participants who were consulted to develop the WASH guide.

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A national Guide for the WASH sector integrating human rights mainstreaming was successfully developed in full participation and consultation with different stakeholders – covering drinking water supply, hygiene promotion and basic sanitation, cross-sectoral issues of human rights, gender, adaptation to climate change, equal participation, integrity and private sector involvement.

Subsequently, a pilot on community based water supply in partnership with local authorities was conducted in Koy Trabek commune in Svay Rieng province. There were 420 households successfully connected to pipe water supply. After piloting successfully, the WASH guide was modified and finalized in consultation with all stakeholders and handover to General Department of Water Supply of Ministry of Industry and Handicraft.

The guide will enable policymakers to take informed decision to ensure a significant increase in quality water and sanitation investments at the sub-national levels. Through application of the guide there should also be an improvement in communication between government bodies, development partners and Non-Government Organizations (NGOs). Ultimately, the guide will assist different stakeholders in effective and efficient delivery of WASH projects in Cambodia.

4. Capacity Building

On **November 28 – 29**, UN-Habitat held a 'Human Rights in Cities' training for staff, with Amnesty International and OHCHR. The overall objective of the training was to enhance staff capacity to implement the Human Rights-Based Approach (HRBA) in all phases of their work. from inception, implementation to monitoring and evaluation to respect, promote and fulfil human rights in cities. The training brought together **31 staff**, including the Human Rights focal points from each of UN-Habitat's seven branches and four Regional Offices, as well as other interested staff. Short webinars were then developed from the training for those who could not attend the training to be able to receive the same information.

By the end of the training participants were more knowledgeable about relevant good practices and were able to reproduce them in other mechanisms, regions and areas of human rights, including by identifying the challenges related to the replication of these practices.

5. On Forced Evictions

We collaborate closely with the Office of the High Commissioner for Human Rights (OHCHR) to prevent unlawful forced evictions through the introduction of legislation and judicial action against forced evictions. We measure our effort by the number of partner countries that are implementing frameworks or programmes preventing unlawful forced eviction.

| Baseline 2013 | Actual 2014 | Actual 2015 | Actual 2016 | Actual 2017 |
|------------------|----------------|----------------|----------------|----------------|
| 6 | 10 | 12 | 14 | 20 |

To date, at least 20 partner countries have taken some form of action to prevent unlawful forced evictions. Some notable examples include **Brazil, Kenya, Saudi Arabia, Ethiopia and South Africa**, all of which have shown political and legislative commitment to strengthen land tenure and prevent forced evictions from occurring without proper justification and appropriate measures to mitigate the risks (i.e. resettlement, compensation, proper notice...).

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There is on-going programmatic work in **Afghanistan** to improve land tenure for returnees, in particular, for women. Other countries such as the **People's Republic of China, India and the Republic of Indonesia** have adopted encouraging measures and alternative approaches to forced evictions.

However, even when Governments adopt policy measures to prevent forced evictions, there continues to be a gap between legislation and practice and advocacy work must continue to translate discourse into action.