



Joint meeting of the Bureaux of the UN-Habitat Governing Bodies and field visit, 21 to 23 March 2024, Mexico City, United Mexican States

**BACKGROUND DOCUMENTS FOR THE MEETING
Draft Version of 13 March 2024**

Table of Contents

Agenda item 1: Opening of the session including adoption of the Provisional Agenda	2
Agenda item 2: Summary update on progress of UN-Habitat Assembly Resolutions	3
Agenda item 3: Status of preparation of the next Strategic Plan (2026-2029)	5
Agenda item 4: Discussions on upcoming elections of the UN-Habitat Governing Bodies and Membership of the Executive Board.	6
Agenda item 5: Briefing on the upcoming resumed second session of the United Nations Habitat Assembly to be held in May 2025	9
Agenda item 6: Status of the preparations for the twelfth session of the World Urban Forum, Cairo, Egypt, 4-8 November 2024: inputs and connection with the New Urban Agenda and the UN-Habitat Strategic Plan	10
Agenda item 7: Global Observance of World Habitat Day 2024 Engaging youth to create a better urban future	12
Agenda item 8: Visit to the National Museum of Housing.	13
Agenda item 9: Field Visit to Bicentennial Park, Ecatepec within the framework of the implementation of the New Urban Agenda and localization of the SDGs.	13
Agenda item 10: Overview and feedback on the Field visit to Ecatepec.	13
Agenda item 11: Contributions to the upcoming priorities of the United Nations in 2024 and 2025	14
Agenda item 12: Multilevel governance, UN dialogue and cooperation with local and regional governments	16



Agenda item 1: Opening of the session including adoption of the Provisional Agenda

Under the Agenda item 1, opening statements will be made by the President of the United Nations Habitat Assembly (UN-Habitat Assembly). This will be followed by opening remarks by the Acting Executive Director of UN-Habitat, the Chair of the Committee of Permanent Representatives and the Chair of the Executive Board. Heads of delegations may also deliver general remarks during this opening segment.

Following the remarks, the President of the UN-Habitat Assembly will lead the review and adoption of the provisional Agenda for the Joint Bureaux meeting. The Provisional agenda is below.

Provisional Agenda

1. Opening of the meeting.
2. Implementation of the resolutions adopted by the Assembly at its first and adjourned second sessions.
3. Status of preparation of the next Strategic Plan (2026-2029).
4. Discussions on upcoming elections of the UN-Habitat Governing Bodies and Membership of the Executive Board.
5. Briefing on the upcoming resumed second session of the United Nations Habitat Assembly to be held in May 2025.
6. Status of the twelfth session of the World Urban Forum, Cairo, Egypt, 4-8 November 2024: inputs and connection with the New Urban Agenda and the UN-Habitat Strategic Plan.
7. Preparations for the global celebration of World Habitat Day 2024 to be held in Querétaro, Mexico.
8. Visit to the National Museum of Housing.
9. Field Visit to Bicentennial Park, Ecatepec within the framework of the implementation of the New Urban Agenda and localization of the SDGs.
10. Overview and feedback on the Field visit to Ecatepec.
11. Contributions to the upcoming priorities of the United Nations in 2024 and 2025
 - a. UN Summit of the Future, 2024
 - b. World Social Summit, 2025
12. Multilevel governance, UN dialogue and cooperation with local and regional governments.
13. Next steps in the preparations for the resumed second session of the UN-Habitat Assembly including the next meeting of the Joint Bureaux.
14. Any other matters.
15. Closure of the meeting.



Agenda item 2: Summary update on progress of UN-Habitat Assembly Resolutions

In its first two sessions, held in 2019 and 2023, the United Nations Habitat Assembly of the United Nations Human Settlements Programme (UN-Habitat Assembly) adopted a total of **fifteen resolutions** on various topics that were either thematic or cross-cutting in nature. The progress on these can be clustered and summarised as follows:

1. **Resolution 1/1** focuses on the adoption on the *Strategic plan 2020-23* (now extended to 2025 by a decision of the second session of the UN-Habitat Assembly). A mid-term evaluation of the Strategic Plan has been conducted by OIOS and is informing the preparation of the Strategic Plan 2026-29.
2. Two resolutions are highly specific and time-bound in their request – **Resolution 2/1** which requests the preparation of *International Guidelines on People-centred Smart Cities*, and **Resolution 2/3** on designation of *World Clean Up Day*. For the latter (**Resolution 2/3**), the General Assembly has designated 20 September as World Clean Up Day and requested UN-Habitat to facilitate its observance, funded through voluntary contributions. On the latter (**Resolution 2/1**), an expert working group has been established and preparations are underway for two global consultations confirmed for Strasbourg in April 2024 and Baku in October 2024. Discussions on modalities for regional consultations are underway with several countries.
3. Nine thematic resolutions are open-ended in nature and provide varying levels of guidance to UN-Habitat for advancing its normative and operational work. These include **Resolution 1/2** on *United Nations System-Wide Guidelines on Safer Cities and Human Settlements*; **Resolution 1/5** on *Enhancing urban-rural linkages*; **Resolution 2/2** on *Accelerating the transformation of informal settlements and slums by 2030*; **Resolution 2/4** on *Biodiverse and resilient cities*; **Resolution 2/5** on *Enhancing the interlinkage between urbanization and climate change resilience*; **Resolution 2/6** on *Localization of the Sustainable Development Goals*; **Resolution 2/7** on *Adequate Housing for All*; **Resolution 2/8** on *Urban planning and sustainable infrastructure*; and **Resolution 2/9** on *Creation of a human settlements resilience framework*. The limited core resources of the United Nations Human Settlements Programme (UN-Habitat) (i.e. from the regular budget or the non-earmarked Foundation) have been strategically deployed to support the implementation of these resolutions directly and indirectly, in conjunction with earmarked (extrabudgetary) resources, where available. Partnerships are being built and strengthened with other UN entities as well as relevant national, regional, and global organisations for advancement of all these resolutions. Some highlights from the implementation of these thematic resolutions include:
 - i. The convening of three successful sessions of the International Forum on Urban-Rural Linkages, the last of which was held in November 2023, and support to 10 countries in integrating urban-rural linkages into their national policies and strategies (**Resolution 1/5**);
 - ii. UN-Habitat’s co-chairing of the Local Climate Action Summit and co-hosting of the second ministerial meeting on urbanization and climate change at the CoP28 (**Resolution 2/5**);
 - iii. The development and launch of the action-oriented voluntary local reviews methodology, the conceptualization of comprehensive capacity-building package on SDG localization for United Nations resident coordinator offices and country teams, the development of an SDG localization marker for the Joint SDG Fund, and accelerated support to implement the degree of urbanization approach in nearly 60 countries and the global Urban Monitoring Framework in nearly 120 cities (**Resolution 2/6**);
 - iv. An ongoing needs assessment to inform the technical development of the proposed platform for achieving access for all to adequate, safe and affordable housing, an expert group meeting on housing indicators, and the planning of possible activities and programme of work of the open-ended intergovernmental expert working group on adequate housing for all (**Resolution 2/7**).
4. Two resolutions are explicitly cross-cutting in nature, viz. **Resolution 1/3** on *Enhancing capacity-building* and **Resolution 1/4** on *Achieving gender equality*. The implementation of these is progressing through the

mainstreaming of related activities across the normative, operational, partnerships and advocacy work of UN-Habitat.

5. Finally, **Resolution 2/10** on *Equitable financing and effective monitoring of the implementation of resolutions adopted by the United Nations Habitat Assembly* is of an enabling nature and meant to support the implementation of all Assembly resolutions. In 2023, the funding window was established within the financial system of the Organization and its terms of reference were endorsed by the Executive Board in its decision 2023/6 (see HSP/EB.2023/23), adopted at its third session of 2023. In 2024, the contribution agreement template will be revised to include the elective transfer of project balances to the funding window.



Agenda item 3: Status of preparation of the next Strategic Plan (2026-2029)

The strategic plan for 2026–2029 is being developed through a consultative process, in an open and inclusive manner. The development process is guided by lessons learned and recommendations from consultations, assessments and evaluations, including in-depth consultations with Member States, United Nations development system entities, UN-Habitat personnel, stakeholders and partners. UN Habitat proposed guiding principles and a road map for Member State consultations to be held at relevant points in the development of the strategic plan, starting with a first dialogue held with Member States in January 2024.

In January 2024, the outgoing Executive Director constituted an internal task force to guide the drafting of the strategic plan. The task force members represent all regions and divisions of the organization, in order to facilitate whole-of-house engagement. The task force started by refining the road map for the development of the plan and identifying priorities for the consideration of Member States and a synthesis of preliminary reflections on the possible scope and articulation of priorities. Furthermore, the secretariat is carrying out analysis of key global trends and conditions and environmental scanning to inform the deliberations on strategic priorities for 2026–2029.

At the same time, the United Nations Office of Internal Oversight Services has been conducting a midterm evaluation of UN-Habitat’s strategic plan for 2020–2025. In January 2024, the Office of Internal Oversight Services shared the preliminary results of their evaluation with UN Habitat senior management. The preliminary results informed the initial proposal for the guiding principles and other elements of the strategic plan for 2026–2029. The conclusions of the evaluation will also be presented to the Executive Board at its first session of 2024.

The presentation to the Joint Bureaux will be based on the Report of the ED to the EB and will include:

- Perspectives on the purpose of a strategy for UN-Habitat
- Proposed guiding principles
- Juxtaposed considerations of what the SP should address
- Current priorities framework
- Global and urban trends
- Tentative entry points to challenges and priorities
- Potential approaches to responding to challenges
- Way forward

The UN-Habitat secretariat will continue to prepare the strategic plan based on the proposed road map and the updates provided here. The secretariat continues to engage Member States and key stakeholders through structured dialogues facilitated by the strategic plan task force and its secretariat.

The conclusions of each of these dialogues will be synthesized by the secretariat and will inform the structure and content of the following dialogue sessions and the drafting of the strategic plan.



Agenda item 4: Discussions on upcoming elections of the UN-Habitat Governing Bodies and Membership of the Executive Board.

Expected composition of the Bureaux of the Governing Bodies of UN-Habitat for the period 2025-2029

Background

At the adjourned second regular session of the United Nations Habitat Assembly (UN-Habitat Assembly) held in June 2023, the UN-Habitat Assembly adopted decision 2/3 on “Term of office of the members of the Executive Board and the Bureau of the United Nations Habitat Assembly”. In that decision, the UN-Habitat Assembly decided that:

1. The Bureau of the United Nations Habitat Assembly elected during the first session, in 2019, are to remain in office until the final meeting of the resumed regular second session of the United Nations Habitat Assembly.
2. The current members of the Executive Board of UN-Habitat who were elected in 2019 are to remain in office until the closure of the resumed regular second session of the United Nations Habitat Assembly.

In addition, the Executive Board at its second session of 2023 decided to extend the term of its current Bureau until the second resumed regular session of the UN-Habitat Assembly in 2025.

Further the Committee of Permanent Representatives (CPR) decided at its second open-ended meeting in 2023 to extend the term of its Bureau until May 2025 during its third open ended meeting in preparations for the resumed second resumed session of the UN-Habitat Assembly.

Consequently, at the resumed second regular session of the UN-Habitat Assembly to be held in May 2025, the Assembly is expected to elect its next Bureau for the Period 2025 – 2029. The Assembly is also expected to elect the 36 members of the Executive Board for a new term of four years until the third session of the UN-Habitat Assembly in 2029.

The CPR will also elect its new Bureau at its third open-ended meeting in 2025, while the Executive Board will elect its Bureau in 2025 following the election of the 36 members by the UN-Habitat Assembly, from among those members.

In anticipation of the elections of the offices of the various Governing Bodies of UN-Habitat in 2025 to be guided by applicable rules of procedure of the UN-Habitat Assembly and the Executive Board, the expected composition of the various offices are reflected below.

1.Expected composition of the Bureau of the United Nations Habitat Assembly for the period 2025-2029

Bureau of the UN-Habitat Assembly 2025-2029
PRESIDENT
Asia – Pacific States
VICE-PRESIDENTS
African States
Eastern European States
Western European and Others State (WEOG)
RAPPORTEUR
Latin American and Caribbean States (GRULAC)

2. Expected composition of the Bureau of the Committee of Permanent Representative during the period 2025-2029

Bureau of the Committee of Permanent Representatives 2025-2027	Bureau of the Committee of Permanent Representatives 2027-2029
Chairperson	Chairperson
Western European and Others - WEOG	Eastern European Group
Vice-Chairpersons	Vice-Chairpersons
Asia-Pacific Group	Western European and Others – WEOG
Latin American and Caribbean Group	Asia-Pacific Group
Eastern European Group	Africa Group
Rapporteur	Rapporteur
Africa Group	Latin American and Caribbean Group

3. Expected composition of the Bureau of the Executive Board of UN-Habitat for the period 2025 to 2029

Bureau of the Executive Board 2025-2026	Bureau of the Executive Board 2025-2027	Bureau of the Executive Board 2027-2028	Bureau of the Executive Board 2028-2029
Chair	Chair	Chair	Chair
WESTERN EUROPEAN AND OTHERS – WEOG	ASIA PACIFIC	EASTERN EUROPEAN STATES	LATIN AMERICA AND CARIBBEAN STATES
Vice-Chairs	Vice-Chairs	Vice-Chairs	Vice-Chairs
Asia-Pacific States	Western European and Others – WEOG	Asia-Pacific States	Eastern European States
Eastern European States	Latin American and Caribbean States (GRULAC)	African States	Asia-Pacific States
Latin American and Caribbean States	African States	Western European and Others – WEOG	African States
Rapporteur	Rapporteur	Rapporteur	Rapporteur
African States	Eastern European States	Latin American and Caribbean States (GRULAC)	Western European and Others – WEOG



Agenda item 5: Briefing on the upcoming resumed second session of the United Nations Habitat Assembly to be held in May 2025

Under this item, the joint Bureaux will discuss the preparations for the upcoming resumed second session of the UN-Habitat Assembly to be held in May 2025 including reviewing the dates and agenda for that session as adopted in Decision 2/2 of the UN-Habitat Assembly. Decision 2/2 is below.

Decision 2/2: Dates of the resumed second session of the United Nations Habitat Assembly

The United Nations Habitat Assembly,

Taking note of paragraph 15 of decision 2021/6 adopted by the Executive Board at its second session of 2021,

1. *Decides*, in accordance with rule 9 of the rules of procedure, to adjourn its second regular session and to resume the session for a duration of two days, on 29 and 30 May 2025, in order to achieve the alignment of the planning cycle of UN-Habitat with the quadrennial comprehensive policy review of operational activities for the development of the United Nations system;

2. *Decides* that the provisional agenda of the resumed second session of the United Nations Habitat Assembly should be as follows:

1. Opening of the session.
2. Adoption of the agenda.
3. Report of the Chair of the Committee of Permanent Representatives.
4. Credentials of representatives.
5. Election of the members of the Executive Board.
6. Strategic plan for the period 2026–2029.
7. Adoption of the outcomes of the meeting.
8. Provisional agenda and other arrangements for the third session of the United Nations Habitat Assembly.
9. Election of officers.
10. Other matters.
11. Closure of the session.



Agenda item 6: Status of the preparations for the twelfth session of the World Urban Forum, Cairo, Egypt, 4-8 November 2024: inputs and connection with the New Urban Agenda and the UN-Habitat Strategic Plan

Background

1. One of the key roles of the United Nations Human Settlements Programme (UN-Habitat) is global advocacy to mobilize and scale broader action regarding sustainable urbanization at all levels and by all stakeholders. Since its establishment in 2001, pursuant to paragraph 10 of resolution 18/5 of the Commission on Human Settlements, the World Urban Forum (WUF) has become the world's premier knowledge, advocacy and partnership platform on urbanization, bringing together leading actors and decision-makers to address the most pressing issues affecting cities and communities. Participants include international organizations, governments (local, national and regional), civil society, grass-roots communities, the private sector and academia.

Preparations for the twelfth session of the World Urban Forum

2. The twelfth session of the World Urban Forum will be held at the Egypt International Exhibition Centre, in Cairo, from 4 to 8 November 2024. In preparation, UN-Habitat has been working with Member States, local governments, and stakeholders to ensure wide consultation on the background paper, the programme and on engagement opportunities.
3. To ensure that the Forum remains inclusive, the background paper¹ for the twelfth session of the Forum was drafted on the basis of input from expert group workshops.
4. Under the theme “It all starts at home: local actions for sustainable cities and communities”, the twelfth session of the Forum will focus on localizing the Sustainable Development Goals and on the local actions and initiatives required to tackle the current global challenges affecting people's daily lives, including housing inadequacy, rising living costs, climate change, the lack of basic services, and ongoing conflicts.
5. The forum has identified six dialogue areas². They are closely linked to all domains of change of the Strategic Plan 2020-25. The dialogues, which will give structure to events being held at the Forum and serve as conceptual anchors for activities and discussions, are as follows:
 - i. Dialogue 1: Housing our future.
 - ii. Dialogue 2: Cities and the climate crisis
 - iii. Dialogue 3: Stronger together.
 - iv. Dialogue 4: Financing localization and localizing finance.
 - v. Dialogue 5: Putting people first in a digital era.
 - vi. Dialogue 6: The loss of home.
6. On 1 February 2024, the registration process was launched, officially communicated to Member States, and broadcast to all partners via the UN-Habitat website, and an info-session open to all partners in English, French and Arabic. Registration³ is through the UN-Habitat Global Events Management System (GEMS) and will remain open until 6 p.m. (UTC + 2) on 30 October 2024.

¹ See the background paper in this link: <https://wuf.unhabitat.org/sites/default/files/pdf/wuf12-background-paper.pdf>.

² Refer to the background paper for in-depth descriptions of the six dialogues.

³ Access this link for registration and partner-led events applications in GEMS: <https://events.unhabitat.org/>.

7. Partner-led events opened on 20 February and shall close on 08 April 2024. The partner-led event selection committees have been nominated by the UN-Habitat Task Force, are being trained on the GEMS, and shall commence reviewing all the events submitted after the deadline. The outcome of the selection committees will be communicated to all organizers from 31 May 2024.
8. UN-Habitat is focussing on regional mobilization through a wide array of advocacy platforms, which include but are not limited to multilevel urban forums supporting the New Urban Agenda reporting for the 2026 cycle, Urban October, the 2024 high-level political forum on sustainable development, the seventy-eighth session of the General Assembly and other partner-led advocacy platforms.



Agenda item 7: Global Observance of World Habitat Day 2024

Engaging youth to create a better urban future

World Habitat Day was established by the United Nations General Assembly to reflect on the state of human settlements and the basic right of all to adequate housing. Each year on the first Monday of October, World Habitat Day kicks off Urban October – a month-long UN-Habitat campaign to promote sustainable urban development worldwide.

In 2024, World Habitat Day will be held on 7 October in the state of Querétaro, Mexico, under the theme "Engaging Youth to Create a Better Urban Future." This event aims to address the challenges and opportunities of rapid urbanization by emphasizing the active involvement of young people in urban planning and shaping sustainable cities and communities.

By 2050, cities are projected to host approximately 70 per cent of the world's population, highlighting the pressing need for inclusive urban planning and sustainable development. Currently, youth in the Global South account for 70 per cent of the urban population. Despite global efforts, the United Nations acknowledges persistent challenges in advancing the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), particularly in the areas of poverty, inequality, and the looming threat of climate change. These and other issues pose significant obstacles to the equitable growth and resilience of urban areas worldwide.

Empowering youth and involving them in urban decision-making is essential for developing inclusive and resilient cities. By harnessing the energy, creativity, and perspectives of youth, cities can work towards more sustainable and equitable development, ensuring a brighter future for all. The state of Querétaro will use this celebration to create an inclusive space for engaging youth, civil society, social organizations and all levels of government in discussions about participation and urban planning.

Host: The Secretariat of Urban Development and Public Works of the Government of the State of Querétaro, Mexico, is the public entity responsible for planning, developing, and hosting World Habitat Day 2024.

Collaborators:

- United Nations Human Settlements Programme (UN-Habitat)
- Secretariat of Foreign Affairs, Mexico
- Secretariat of Urban Development and Public Works, Government of the State of Querétaro
- Secretariat of Tourism, Municipality of Querétaro

Expected outcomes:

- Youth involvement in creating inclusive urban policies and fostering multi-sectoral collaboration
- Raising awareness among youth about environmental issues, human settlements, and quality of life
- Supporting youth research and innovation to address global challenges
- Understanding the local impact of global challenges on young people
- Encouraging youth community participation and initiatives for global sustainability efforts



Agenda item 8: Visit to the National Museum of Housing.

Background document on Agenda item 8 which is the visit to the National Museum of Housing can be accessed [here](#).

Agenda item 9: Field Visit to Bicentennial Park, Ecatepec within the framework of the implementation of the New Urban Agenda and localization of the SDGs.

Background document on Agenda item 9 which is the field visit to Bicentennial Park, Ecatepec within the framework of the implementation of the New Urban Agenda and localization of the SDGs can be accessed [here](#).

Agenda item 10: Overview and feedback on the Field visit to Ecatepec.

The background document for this item which is to review and give feedback on the field visit to Ecatepec is similar to the above background document and can be accessed [here](#).



Agenda item 11: Contributions to the upcoming priorities of the United Nations in 2024 and 2025

a. UN Summit of the Future, 2024

The Summit of the Future seeks to create an Opportunity for Member States to shape future global agenda, adapting to emerging challenges and forging a new consensus for reinvigorated, effective multilateralism. Several key meetings in the run-up to the Summit helped to shape the **urban dimension** of the Summit, among them the high-level meeting on the implementation of the New Urban Agenda in 2022 and the second session of the United Nations Habitat Assembly in 2023.

UN-Habitat has engaged member States to strengthen the local dimension of the **Pact for the Future**, mainly by promoting the New Urban Agenda as a vehicle to accelerate the achievement of the Agenda 2030 and other actions the Summit seeks to initiate. We are looking for Member States who could champion this initiative and are keen to join a smaller contact group for this endeavor. Similarly, UN-Habitat is advocating for a stronger focus on adequate housing as a critical pathway to realise several other human rights and avenues of social economic development. Adequate housing is critical to virtually reach all SDGs. UN-Habitat is keen to explore interest by member states to champion this holistic approach to housing within the larger discussion within the Summit.

Furthermore, UN-Habitat serves as the secretariat to the **SG's Advisory on Local and Regional Governments**, which was launched by the SG on October 6th, 2023. UN-Habitat facilitates the preparation of guidance notes and policy briefs on (i) enhancing the role of LRGs in implementing Agenda 2030 and other major development agendas, (ii) strengthening engagement of Local and Regional Governments in intergovernmental processes, (iii) improving multi-level cooperation and integration between LRGs, national governments and UN country teams, and (iv) a United Nations global strategy for the engagement of local and regional governments.

b. World Social Summit, 2025

Following a recommendation made by the Secretary General in Our Common Agenda, the United Nations General Assembly decided on 26 February 2024 to convene the "**Second World Summit for Social Development**" in 2025. To revive the paradigm of leaving no one behind, the SG has proposed a **renewed social contract anchored in human rights**. The SG has suggested that "the Summit outcome could be an update of the 1995 Copenhagen Declaration on Social Development, covering issues such as **universal social protection floors, including universal health coverage, adequate housing, education for all and decent work**, and give momentum towards achieving the Sustainable Development Goals."

The **right to adequate housing** is a key entry point for UN-Habitat. The open-ended intergovernmental expert working group on adequate housing, established by UNHA2 resolution HSP/HA.2/Res.7 on Adequate Housing for All, currently considers recommendations to the UN-Habitat Assembly on the development and content of policies for accelerating progress towards the universal achievement of safe, sustainable, adequate and affordable housing.

UN-Habitat currently **reformulates its normative guidelines and mobilizes a multi-stakeholder partnership to reinvigorate the attainment of adequate housing for all**. An ECOSOC special meeting could help to build further momentum. The New York Office will engage with member States once the President of the General Assembly has nominated the co-facilitators. Another possibility would be to leverage the run up to the Summit to launch the work on "Mapping and evaluating existing multilateral and bilateral support for the

development and implementation of effective housing policies, programmes and projects" which is among the tasks of the Working Group.



Agenda item 12: Multilevel governance, UN dialogue and cooperation with local and regional governments

Multi-level governance is an essential cross-cutting function across the ten resolutions adopted by member States during the second session of the United Nations Habitat Assembly, and UN-Habitat promotes it through different avenues.

National urban policies

First, NUPs are a key prerequisite for the overall enabling of intergovernmental cooperation and coordination, as well as the institutionalization of multi-stakeholder participatory processes. Second, sectoral multi-level governance processes play an important role in enhancing the effectiveness of national and global policy initiatives. For instance, UN-Habitat is promoting effective urban climate action by organizing COP Ministerial Meetings on Cities and Climate Change.

Over past 8 years, UN-Habitat has worked in over 60 countries, supporting formulation, implementation, monitoring and review of their national and sub-national urban policies, raising awareness of the need for national level policy to manage sustainable urbanization. The programme has supported policy/legislative reform in those countries, worked with over 20 partners and launched over 20 key strategic normative products. Urban policies have offered platform of dialogue between levels of governments establishing effective links and shared development planning strategies across levels of governments and regions enhancing the effectiveness of such development plans. Equally, by fostering multilevel collaboration and coordination, it ensures urban resources and investments are strategically allocated and their use optimized to promote balanced territorial development.

UN Dialogue:

UNSDG priorities for 2024 which UN entities are expected to support and requested to submit their key modalities how to do so:

- 1) *Acceleration of SDGs' implementation following the SDG Summit with 3 focus areas of work:* Financing the SDGs (support to SDG Stimulus); Cooperation on the Six Transitions: Strengthening dev – peace - humanitarian coordination;
- 2) *Solidifying the UN reform for effective and efficient support to countries, closely related to the Funding Compact with Member States:* action on the UN gender review results; Action on the results of the survey on “the UN functions and capacities; and
- 3) *Supporting ambitious outcome of the Summit of the Future through 3 priority areas of work:* the new global Financial Architecture; Global Digital Compact and the New Agenda for Peace

Local2030 Coalition

The Local2030 Coalition, permanently co-chaired by UN-Habitat, is the UN System-wide platform and network for supporting and accelerating the localization of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development. The Coalition brings together the UN-System, local and regional governments and their associations, national governments, businesses, community-based organizations, and other local actors to mobilize, empower and support local stakeholders in advancing the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development. By leveraging resources to strengthen capacities, unlock access to financing, foster innovation, and scale up efforts, Local2030 has effectively galvanized multilevel and multi-stakeholder support, driving concerted efforts towards harnessing the transformative potential of localization as a catalyst for SDG advancement.

SDG Cities:

UN-Habitat SDG Cities Global Initiative is a response to the need for accelerated action on the local implementation of SDGs during this Decade of Action. It centers on the ambitious goal of supporting over 1000 cities to accelerate their achievement of the SDGs and positively impacting 1 billion lives. The programme adheres to a four-tracked sequence: (a) data collection and analysis, (a) strategic planning, (c) the strengthening of local institutions, and (d) investment and implementation. The programme recognizes and incentivizes exceptional achievement of cities through SDG Cities Recognitions. The progress of SDG Cities includes 49 onboarded cities worldwide, seven digital tools and one digital management system developed with 4 e-learning courses working on progress for their development.

SG's Advisory Group on Local and Regional Governments

The establishment of an Advisory Group on Local Regional Governments ahead of the Summit of the Future offers Member States an unprecedented opportunity to promote inclusive, networked, and effective multilateralism by harnessing the power of local and regional governments and fostering multi-level governance, as envisioned in the SG's Our Common Agenda Report 2021 and recommended by the **High-Level Advisory Board on Effective Multilateralism**.

Local and regional governments' engagement in multilateral processes will boost the 2030 Agenda implementation by localizing and better aligning efforts of national and local governments to achieve the SDGs. Building on existing initiatives and structures, such as the Local2030 Coalition, the inputs of the Advisory Group contribute to a narrative that can leverage green and inclusive urbanization dynamics.