Networking Event

Stakeholder Engagement Mechanism for Sustainable Development

9 February 2020, 14:00–16:00, ADEC, Hall2, Room 6

Joseph Schechla, coordinator
Housing and Land Rights Network – Habitat International Coalition
“UNDS-wide resources and efforts at a higher vantage point”
Repositioning the United Nations development system to deliver on the 2030 Agenda: ensuring a better future for all

Report of the Secretary-General

Resolve the data gap, while assets are scattered across the System....(para. 32);

Coordination, accountability, pooling expertise and assets across the Organisation...(paras. 53, 79);

Anticipate risks...(para. 79)
Implementation of General Assembly resolution 67/226 on the quadrennial comprehensive policy review of operational activities for development of the United Nations system

Report of the Secretary-General

Violations of human rights are often our best early warning signs of trouble.

Prevention...needs to be an integral part of the activities of the United Nations development system (para. 9).
Core Integrated Functions of the UNDS to support implementation of the 2030 Agenda effectively

• Drawing on diversity and expertise across the UN system, tools and analysis utilized by the different pillars of the UN – human rights, humanitarian action, peace and security, political economy and climate change.

• Normative support to countries to establish, implement, monitor and report on norms, normative standards and agreements, including on international human rights commitments [sic]…
Specificity for SDG implementation

General Assembly

Seventy-first session
Agenda item 20

New Urban Agenda

Quito Declaration on Sustainable Cities and Human Settlements for All

1. We, Heads of State and Government, Ministers and High Representatives, have gathered at the United Nations Conference on Housing and Sustainable Urban Development (Habitat III) from 17 to 20 October 2016 in Quito, with the participation of subnational and local governments, parliamentarians, civil society, indigenous peoples and local communities, the private sector, professionals and practitioners, the scientific and academic community, and other relevant stakeholders, to adopt a New Urban Agenda.
Milestones in UN-Habitat History of Partner Engagement

1. 1976 | Habitat I Conference, Habitat NGO Forum, Vancouver
2. 1978–92 | Habitat International Coalition (HIC) major NGO partner of UN Habitat
3. 1994–4 | Habitat II PrepCom declines Habitat II “conference of partners”. Habitat II’s landmark action plan declares local authorities and civil society “Habitat Agenda Partners.”
4. 1997 | Commission on Human Settlements (CHS) rejects new EO-style tripartite governance structure
5. 1998 | UN Habitat declines, restructuring begins
6. 1999–2000 | UN Habitat launches around two inclusive “campaigns”. UN Advisory Committee of Local Authorities (UNACLA) founded
7. Feb 2001 | CHS rejects draft World Charter of Local Self-Government (WCLSG). UN Habitat blocks entry of LALs and NGOs to plenary; civil society and local authority participation in CHS meetings declines
8. Dec 2001 | UN GA upgrades UN Habitat and endorses World Urban Forum (WUF) as partner platform of experts.
9. 2002 | First WUF, its impact influences outcome of Rio+20
10. 2003 | Habitat’s new Governing Council opens up to civil society and local authorities in ground-breaking move
11. 2006 | Advisory Group on Forced Evictions suspends; some key NGOs cease work with UN Habitat
13. 2010 | World Urban Campaign launched at WUF 5 in Rio
14. 2011 | By 2011 external advisory boards on women and youth functioning at UN-Habitat
15. 2012 | WUF sessions stop issuing reports with recommendations
16. 2014 | Organized policy dialogue with partners declines as Habitat focuses on operational activities
17. 2015 | Habitat II preparations lead to partial partner re-engagement in General Assembly of Partners (GAP), but not as a channel of substantive input and without a normative framework
18. 2016 | Habitat II Conference Quits; no roadmap for partner engagement in the New Urban Agenda (NUA)
19. Dec 2017–Jan 2018 | UN GA requests Habitat CFR to draft action framework for NUA in close collaboration with Habitat Partners; Habitat announces work on Stakeholder Engagement Policy (SEP)
20. June 2018 | Habitat CFR proposes new Habitat Assembly and Executive Board without consultations with partners; begins consideration of SEP
21. Oct 2018 | Habitat continues to work on SEP without known inputs from stakeholders and partners.
22. Dec 2018 | Habitat announces completion of SEP but not made public. UN GA approves new governance structure of Habitat; Resolution makes no mention of partners and stakeholders.
23. Jan 2019 | Habitat management asks key staff to recommend members of new Stakeholder Advisory Board without consultation with partners
24. Feb 2019 | Habitat Committee of Permanent Representatives (CPR) begins work on rules of procedure for new Habitat Assembly; no consultation with partners
25. Mar 2019 | Draft rules of procedure for Assembly and Board ready for review; in sum they downgrade partner representation
26. May 2019 | First session of Habitat Assembly to be preceded by one-day Stakeholder Forum as decided by Habitat management without proper consultations or agreed agenda.
### Institutional Mechanism Working Group (IMWG)

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Organization</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Ms. Anne Wamaitha</td>
<td>GROOTS Kenya</td>
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<td>Ms. Elisabeth Markham</td>
<td>Ntengwe for Community Development</td>
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<td>Mr. George Wasonga</td>
<td>Civil Society Urban Development Platform</td>
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<td>Dr. Louisa Bravo</td>
<td>City Space Architecture</td>
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<td>Mr. John Mwaiseghe</td>
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<td>Mr. Jeff Soule</td>
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<td>Ms. Magdelena Garcia</td>
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<td>Ms. Maite Rodríguez Blandón</td>
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<td>Mr. Joseph Schechla</td>
<td>HIC-HLRN</td>
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Toward an Institutional Mechanism for Stakeholder Engagement in the New UN-Habitat Governance

• Introduction

• Tunnel at the End of the Light
  o UN Habitat and Partnership since 1976
  o Stakeholder Participation in UN Habitat’s Programme Activities Post-2001
  o Participation in Governance: From Enthusiasm to Stagnation and Frustration
  o From “Engagement” to “Partnership” with Stakeholders
  o Determining Channels of Engagement: Habitat Assembly or Executive Board?

• Learning from the Working Methods of Other Executive Boards

• UN Habitat Advisory Bodies: A Legacy of Two Decades
  o UN Advisory Committee of Local Authorities (UNACLA)
  o Advisory Group on Forced Evictions (AGFE)
  o World Urban Campaign Steering Committee
  o Youth Advisory Board (YAB)
  o Advisory Group on Gender Issues (AGGI)
  o Global Land Tool Network
  o Performance of the Advisory Groups
  o Advisory Bodies and the New Urban Agenda

• Participation of Stakeholders and Advisory Committees across the UN System
  o Appointed Stakeholder Mechanisms in the UN System
  - UNDP Civil Society Advisory Committee (CSAC)
    - UNICEF NGO Committee
    - UN Women’s Global Civil Society Advisory Group
    - Advisory Committee of the UN Human Rights Council.
  o Self-organized Stakeholder Mechanisms within the UN System
    - UNESCO Governing Bodies and Partners
    - International Labour Organisation and Tripartism
    - UN Environment’s Stakeholder Mechanisms
    - FAO and the International Planning Committee for Food Sovereignty
    - Civil Society and Indigenous Peoples Mechanism for relations with the UN Committee on World Food Security

• Lessons to Be Learned from Practice in the UN System

• Recommendations and the Way Forward

• Habitat Stakeholder Advisory Board
  o Functions and Periodicity of Meetings

• Next Steps

• Annexes
UN-HABITAT

UN-Habitat Assembly

Executive Board

Habitat Stakeholder Advisory Board

Civil Society Mechanism (CSM)

Local Government/Authority Mechanism (LGAM)

Private Sector Mechanism (PSM)