

Briefing note
Online Global Stakeholder Forum on assessing implementation and monitoring
of the NUA and SDGs, 4-5 April 2022

Introduction

Strategic partnerships are essential for the successful achievement of internationally agreed commitments, standards, and norms. UN-Habitat in collaboration with the Stakeholder Engagement Advisory Group Enterprise (SAGE) is organizing a multi stakeholder consultative meeting to enable stakeholders to provide feedback and suggest strategies for accelerated implementation and monitoring of the New Urban Agenda, and relevant sustainable development goals, especially SDG 11 make cities inclusive, safe, resilient, and sustainable, and the Abu Dhabi Declared Actions. Stakeholder will be briefed on the outcome of the High-Level Meeting (HLM) to review progress on implementation of the New Urban Agenda, and the eleventh session of the World Urban Forum. They will also discuss preparations and stakeholder engagement in the second session of the UN-Habitat Assembly in 2023. The outcome of the Forum will also contribute towards development of the stakeholder engagement policy.

Background

All development actors, including national governments, local and regional governments, major groups, and other stakeholders, were involved in the creation of the New Urban Agenda (NUA) and the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs). The role of stakeholders in follow-up, implementation, monitoring and reporting on the NUA is clearly acknowledged, and SDG goal 17 clarifies stakeholder engagement in all processes of the SDGs.

This year presents several milestones for considering implementation of global agendas on housing and sustainable urban development. At the HLM on 28 April 2022 member states will discuss implementation of the NUA against the background of the Secretary General's quadrennial report, and amongst inputs of the President of the General Assembly Stakeholder Advisory Group on housing and sustainable urban development, local and regional governments, and other stakeholders. The outcome of this meeting will also inform follow-up commitments, including declarations at the eleventh session of the World Urban Forum, which will take place in Katowice, Poland, from June 26 to June 30, 2022. In this context, UN-Habitat is leveraging its unique partnership opportunities to promote multi-stakeholder engagement in these global intergovernmental and partnering processes.

The Global Stakeholders Forum will give voice to diverse stakeholders to share their experience, lessons learned, and identify opportunities for accelerated implementation of the NUA and, the 2030 agenda during this decade of action. As efforts are made to involve stakeholders in the voluntary national and local reviews, much more remains to be done, and stakeholders are part of the solution.

Monitoring implementation of global agendas at local and national level is key to increasing the data and evidence necessary for policy change, resource allocation and programming. Many stakeholders are involved in informal data collection, but most of this data is not integrated into the local, sub-national, national, regional, and global statistical systems. By working and learning together member states, national and local governments, civil society,

private sector, academia and other stakeholders, great strides can be made in monitoring of the NUA and SDGs.

The UN-Habitat Strategic Plan 2020–2023 is heavily focused on supporting countries in achieving the urban related SDGs and the NUA. UN-Habitat in collaboration with diverse experts has developed the global urban monitoring framework, and the Degree of Urbanisation tool which are being pre-tested in selected countries and cities, with the aim of facilitating monitoring human settlements indicators and the NUA, and comparability. Through the Voluntary Local Review Programme UN-Habitat in partnership with other actors is supporting local and regional governments in their efforts to monitor and report on SDGs and localize the 2030 Agenda. Additionally, the Urban Agenda Platform was also launched as a tool to facilitate reporting by member states, local and regional governments, UN agencies and stakeholders on implementation of the New Urban Agenda as an accelerator for implementation of Sustainable Development Goals. To date 25 out of 193 member states have submitted national reports on implementation of the NUA. The worldwide response to reporting has not been sufficiently ambitious and transformative. There is a need to accelerate our efforts for monitoring the NUA and SDG 11 to deliver on the 2030 Agenda.

Stakeholders do contribute to implementation of the NUA and can support monitoring and reporting by sharing data and information with national and local governments, especially national statistical offices, Ministries of housing and urban development, cities, and authorities coordinating the reporting process and preparation of voluntary national and local reviews. In this case building partnerships, cooperation and collaboration amongst all actors is paramount.

The multi-stakeholder consultative meeting, which will take place in April from 4 to 5, 2022. Participants at the meeting will adopt stakeholder commitments to action and recommendations to member states, local and regional governments, and other actors on the NUA, SDG 11, WUF 11 and Second Session of the UN-Habitat Assembly. The meeting will also chart a collaboration course to strengthen effective stakeholder participation.

Objectives and outcomes

1. To provide feedback on implementation of the NUA, highlights, commitments, and ways to accelerate implementation and monitoring.
2. Update and review of progress made on the Abu Dhabi declared actions
2. Brief on WUF 11 and stakeholder engagement.
4. Discuss stakeholder engagement in the second session of the UN-Habitat Assembly in 2023.

Approach

The UN-Habitat stakeholder advisory group to the Executive Director will hold consultative meetings with internal and external thematic networks and advisory groups to identify stakeholder priorities and collaboration mechanisms at all levels.

Participants

The global stakeholder forum will be open to all stakeholders in the fields of sustainable urban development and human settlements.

Format of the forum

The Forum will take the form panel of presentations and plenary discussions, Stakeholders interested in sharing their experiences will be required to submit one page highlighting the focus, impact, lessons learned, data produced on which indicator or section of NUA.