

UN-HABITAT

The UN Agency for the built environment

The lead agency for the MDGs on:

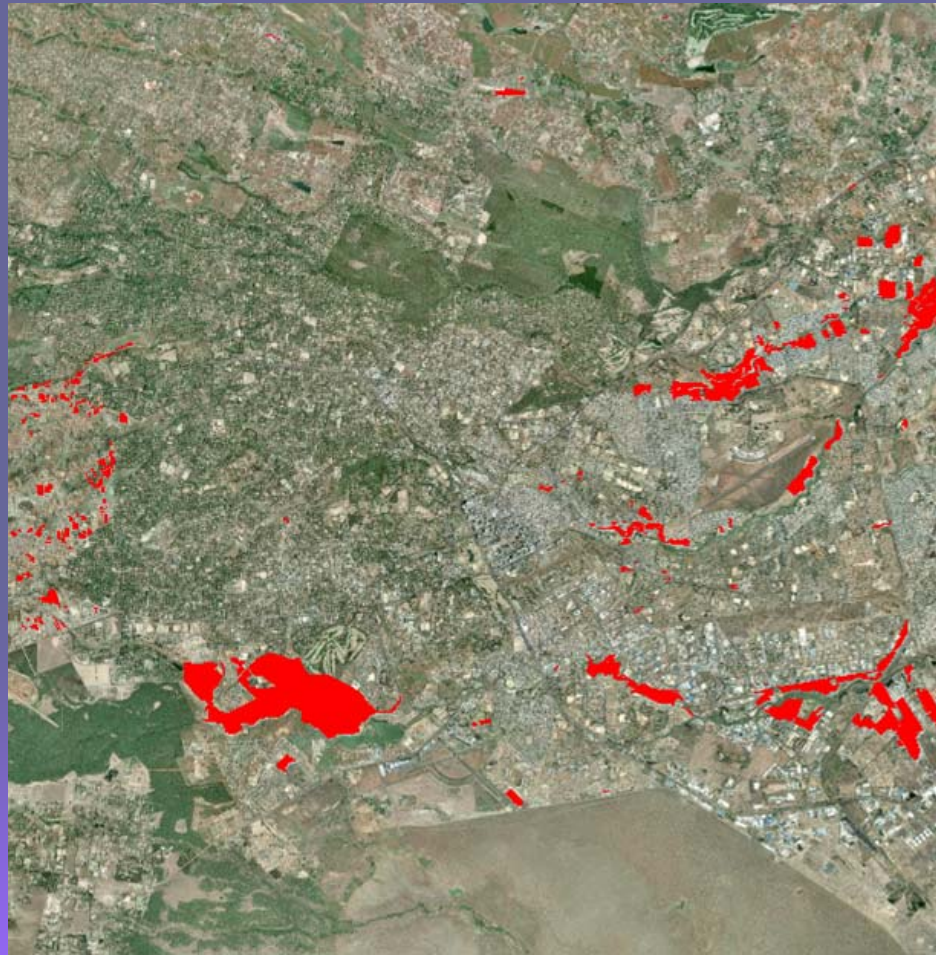
- slum upgrading
- access to improved water & sanitation

The UN focal point for:

- local authorities



A Look at UN-HABITAT's home city from space: Nairobi, Kenya. **Slums in Red**



A satellite view of Nairobi's largest slum: Kibera



UN-HABITAT Mission

To promote socially and environmentally sustainable human settlements development and the achievement of adequate shelter for all



Elements of UN-HABITAT strategy

- **Knowledge management and reporting**, expanding the global understanding of urban development, shelter and poverty, and tracking progress in implementing the Habitat Agenda
- **Advocacy of norms** for sustainable urbanization and urban poverty reduction, carried forward through two global campaigns and a number of global programmes
- **Technical cooperation** in linking norms and campaign/programme goals to urban poverty reduction activities on the ground
- **Innovative financing** for urbanization and specific shelter needs of the urban poor; and
- **Strategic partnerships** to leverage resources and coordinate international programme activities that work toward similar ends

Implementing the UN-HABITAT strategy UN-HABITAT and the Kenya Slum Upgrading (KENSUP) Initiative.



The slum upgrading programme

- The Kenya Slum Upgrading Programme is a collaborative initiative between the Government of Kenya and UN-HABITAT under a signed MOU
- The programme's development objective is to improve the livelihoods of people living and working in slums and informal settlements in the urban areas of Kenya through housing improvement, income generation, and the provision of security of tenure and physical and social infrastructure
- 60 to 80% of Kenya's urban population lives in slums characterized by lack of access to water and sanitation, adequate housing, and secure tenure
- 60% of Nairobi population live in slum covering 5% of the total land

Kibera settlement

- One of the largest slum settlements in the world occupying approximately 256 ha of land.
- Expanded over the years to the current population of over 700,000 living in 12 villages.



Slum upgrading and Youth

- Slum up grading is a good example to show how UN-HABITAT interacts with youth
- Majority of vulnerable populations in informal settlements are youth
- One major methodology for improving informal settlements is through entrepreneurship and employment creation

Youth as a Resource

- **UN-HABITAT views youth as a resource and as agents of change in their communities.**
- **Promotes Youth engagement in slum upgrading e.g Skills development and capacity programme in Kibera : using a market-driven approach, it seeks to equip youth from Nairobi slums with skills and training that will enable them to take an active and competitive role in the growing construction industry in Kenya, particularly in slum upgrading.**

UN-HABITAT is supporting 4 Youth Empowerment Programmes

- Skills development and capacity building
- Urban entrepreneurship development
- Urban youth resource centres
- Training youth as peace builders



Skills Development and Capacity building

- To improve the livelihoods of youth living and working in informal settlements
- Provide practical training in construction, business development and information communication technology
- Equip young people with managerial and organizational skills, certification and apprenticeship experience to compete for jobs in the construction industry
- Support through practical workshops and hands-on training courses in the production and use of low-cost building materials

Activities

- 250 young people trained in basic construction skills, including, training in the production and use of Habitat-blocks that are stronger than ordinary blocks, and can be produced by self-help builders for a quarter of the price of an ordinary block.
- Training in carpentry, masonry, electrical wiring, plumbing and other block making technologies.
- Training of the youth is linked to mentorship programmes to support employment opportunities and continued capacity building.

- Construction of a training facility at the SNP Mavoko Site for use in the programme (Hands on)
- Attachment of youth graduates to apprenticeships with private sector construction companies and within construction projects of UN-HABITAT's Kenya Slum Upgrading Programmes
- Training and capacity building to strengthen the governance structure of the Construction Brigade Welfare Society and to enhance the leadership skills and competency of members

Youth Fund

A resolution to set up a “Youth Led Development Opportunities Fund” was passed by UN-HABITAT Governing Council in 2006. The fund was set up to support youth led development activities



Fund Justification

- 15-24 years old.
- Represent 18% of the world's population.
- Africa has the largest segment of young people. (reaching 70% of the population in e.g. Kenya, Tanzania, Zimbabwe and Zambia)
- UN-Habitat recognises that young people must be active participants in the future of cities.
- The Opportunities Fund for Urban Youth-Led Development aims to implement this greater participation from youth.

Fund Background

- Initiated by Norway and other governments, adopted a res. At GC 21 to establish the fund
- The fund aims to improve understanding and lead to more effective policies and strategies to encourage youth-led development.
- It must lead to tangibly strengthened international and national policy formulation.
- Although this is a long-term operation, it is KEY that early results are seen in order to encourage more partners to contribute to the fund.

Goals & Objectives

The fund aims to facilitate achievement of the MDGs related to youth.

Support youth-led initiatives in the following areas:

1. mobilization of young people to help strengthen youth related policy formulation.
2. Creation of opportunities for young people: especially employment and entrepreneurship.
3. Building capacities of local and national governments, civil society organizations and private sector to better address youth needs and issues.
4. Promoting gender mainstreaming in all activities in all activities of urban youth.
5. Vocational training and credit mechanisms to promote entrepreneurship and employment for young women and men.
6. Sharing of best practices.

Implementation Strategy

- The fund will build on already existing, but underfinanced initiatives in which strong youth ownership has been documented.
- A mapping phase of existing organisations and initiatives in selected cities (including where UN-HABITAT has youth programmes) and at a broader international level.
- A database will be established documenting these initiatives: this will be key information system for monitoring the activities of the fund.

Ranking of the initiatives

The identified initiatives will be weighted according to the following criteria:

- Adherence to GPI principles of youth led development.
- Relevance to focal areas of the fund.
- Organizational capacity and potential for scaling up.
- Evidence of past achievement of results.
- Opportunities for adding value through investment from the fund.
- Potential for documentation of tangible results from investment from the fund.

The fund, its donors and partners will provide the following services:

- Provision of training and mentoring to targeted youth and their organisations.
- Technical advice for project implementation.
- Evaluation of projects and documentation of best practices.



Management structure

➤ Fund Secretariat:

Purpose: Develop guidelines for project applications, Promotion of fund.

UN HABITAT reps, donors, experts, youth, CSO partners, private sector

➤ Steering Committee:

Purpose: To enhance access to and effective implementation of the fund.

UN HABITAT departments, key partner(s)

➤ Advisory Committee

Purpose: To mainstream youth issues in UN-HABITAT.

Senior managers of UN-HABITAT

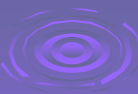
Donors

Youth representatives

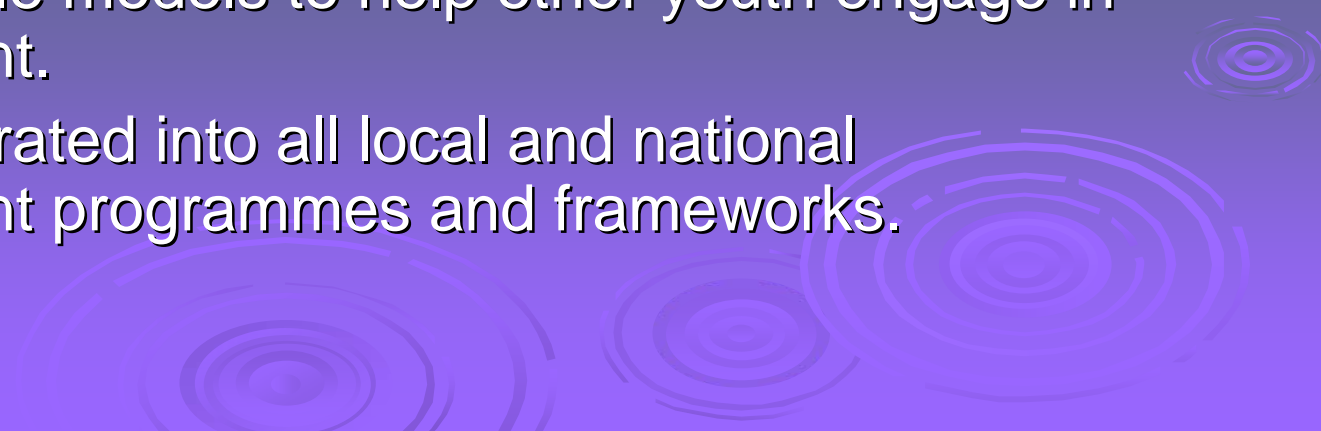
Timeline

- April 2006 UN HABITAT GC 21 Approval of Fund (Norway)
- April/May 2008 Initial Funding secured
- November 3 2008 World Urban Forum IV Launch of Fund/Call for Applications
- January 2009 Deadline for Grants application

- April 2009 GC 22 Announcement of Grants
- 2nd Call for Proposals



Youth Led Development Principles

- Youth define their own development goals and objectives.
 - Youth are given a social and physical space to participate in their own and their communities' development, while regularly being consulted on issues important to them.
 - Adult mentorship and peer-to-peer mentorship is encouraged and facilitated.
 - Youth as role models to help other youth engage in development.
 - Youth integrated into all local and national development programmes and frameworks.
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For more information:

www.unhabitat.org

THANK YOU

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