

THE STRATEGIC PLAN

2020-2023

UN HABITAT



EXECUTIVE BOARD OF UN-HABITAT

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Agenda item 7:
Normative and operational activities of the United Nations Human Settlements Programme

Implementation of the flagship programmes

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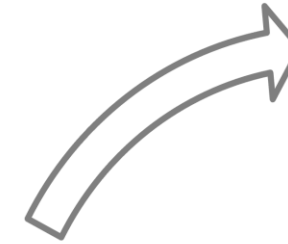


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FOR A BETTER URBAN FUTURE

| Introduction

This report highlights progress made with regards to the flagship programmes (FPs) as critical instruments for advancing a more integrated approach concerning the normative and operational activities of UN-Habitat:

- FP1.** Inclusive, Vibrant Neighbourhoods and Communities
- FP2.** People - Centered Smart Cities
- FP3.** RISE UP Resilient Settlements for the Urban Poor
- FP4.** Inclusive Cities: Enhancing the positive impact of urban migration
- FP5.** SDG Cities

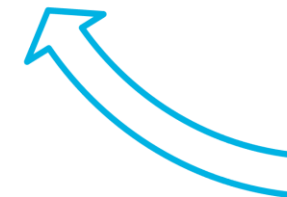


**NEW EVIDENCE TO
GUIDE
KNOWLEDGE
WORK**

KNOWLEDGE and
TOOLS TO SOLVE
ISSUES and GUIDE
FIELD OPERATIONS
WITH CITIES



**NORMATIVE
RESEARCH**



| Flagship Programme 1. Inclusive Vibrant Neighborhoods and Communities

Urban regeneration represents a powerful **integrative tool** for **social, economic and environmental impact** in cities.

The Flagship applies urban regeneration to address **spatial inequality** and **climate change**, and to promote **social value creation, environmental resilience, and shared economic prosperity**.

**Multilevel
governance**

**Capacity
building**

**Technical
assistance**



**Inclusive and resilient
urban regeneration
strategies**



| Flagship Programme 1. Inclusive Vibrant Neighborhoods and Communities

Planned outcomes

- Consolidated data and knowledge on **spatial inclusion and climate action in cities**
- Strengthened **global and regional networks** for inclusive and climate resilient urban regeneration
- Initiatives and solutions developed and implemented by **localising urban regeneration processes** globally

Progress since 2020

Normative tools and technical advice:

- **Urban Regeneration and Viruses Report:** learning from past and present health crisis
- **Guidelines for Inclusive and Sustainable Urban Regeneration**
- **Spatial Inclusion Indicators Framework**
- **Spatial Inequality Monitoring Dashboard**



| Flagship Programme 1. Inclusive Vibrant Neighborhoods and Communities



Opportunities

- **Urban regeneration as a super-tool for the localisation of the SDGs and NUA as it impacts most of the SDGs simultaneously**
- **consolidated benchmarks, data and methodologies for authorities and experts**
- **potential to engage non-traditional finance and funding sources**



Challenges

- **urban regeneration is context-specific with various regional approaches**
→ a global initiative needed to adapt regional and national frameworks, tools and methodologies
- **urban regeneration is identified with a specific political agenda**



| **Flagship Programme 2. People-Centered Smart Cities**

The Flagship puts **inclusion, sustainability and the needs of the people** at the centre of smart cities.

Planned outcomes

“smart” cities policy transformation to center on people

financing of smart cities to achieve SDG11

capacity building and technical assistance to authorities, the private sector and the global development community



| Flagship Programme 2. People-Centered Smart Cities

Progress since 2020

Normative frameworks, strategic partnerships and project collaboration:

- **Digital rights governance framework** for cities
- **Playbook series** on people-centred smart cities for local and regional governments
- **Global review of smart city governance** in 250 cities worldwide
- **Research** on AI and blockchain for urban development

Operational portfolio:

- Mapping, data, and digital governance projects by **UNITAC** in Brazil, South Africa, Tanzania, Jordan
- **Smart City Strategy Toolbox** to be tested in Ghana, Malawi, Mauritius
- Toolkit on **digital transformation** for people-centered cities
- **Digital Helpdesk for Cities** service in Albania, Belgium, Bulgaria, Ireland
- **Climate Smart Cities Challenge** in Colombia, Brazil, Uganda, United Kingdom
- People-Centred Smart Cities Programme scaled up to provide **smart city policies** in Nigeria, Myanmar, and the Islamic Republic of Iran



| Flagship Programme 2. People-Centered Smart Cities



Opportunities

- **top of the agenda in international development**
- **demand for support on smart cities grows.**
- **an expressed need for international guidelines on people-friendly smart cities**



Challenges

- **consideration of smart cities as a top-down, technology-first, industry-led approach**
- **the digital divide is inhibiting smart city developments.**
- **Limited financial and human resources**



| Flagship Programme 3. 'RISE UP' Resilient Settlements for the Urban Poor

The Flagship addresses one of the greatest challenges for climate adaptation:
how to build resilience for the 3 BILLION people living in vulnerable climate hotspots and for the 1 BILLION people living in informal settlements

mobilize large-scale investments in resilience

improve adaptive capacities of the urban poor

integration of urban climate adaptation into city & national frameworks



More resilient urban poor communities and natural and built environments



| Flagship Programme 3. 'RISE UP' Resilient Settlements for the Urban Poor

Planned outcomes

- Achieving a breakthrough in adaptation and resilience for the over three billion people vulnerable to climate change
- Redirecting climate finance to local level and large-scale investments in resilience for the most vulnerable urban poor
- Creating an enabling policy environment, knowledge and capacities for building local resilience

Progress since 2020

Advocacy on the climate action urgency for the most vulnerable people in cities

- **Race to Zero** campaign
- **Race to Resilience** campaign
- Supported a UNFCCC constituency in COP26 in integrating **Multi-level Governance and Cooperative Action** into the Glasgow Pact

Acquired a portfolio of \$89.8 million for climate action in **20 cities in 17 countries**



| Flagship Programme 3. 'RISE UP' Resilient Settlements for the Urban Poor



Opportunities

- **mature Adaptation Fund portfolio**
- **existing experience, tools, and methodologies**
- **scale up the partnerships through the COP27 presidential initiative**
- **increase human resources and expert pool of the programme**



Challenges

- **reduction in financial resources**
- **limited knowledge and capacities of local governments**



| **Flagship Programme 4. Inclusive Cities:**

Enhancing the Positive Impacts of Urban Migration

The Flagship aims to harness the **positive impact of migration and displacement in urban areas**

Planned Outcomes

Improved knowledge
informing integrated and
inclusive solutions

**Innovative, integrated, and
people-centred solutions**



**more inclusive urban
environment** for migrants,
the internally displaced and
host communities



| Flagship Programme 4. Enhancing the Positive Impacts of Urban Migration

Progress since 2020

Partnerships and networking

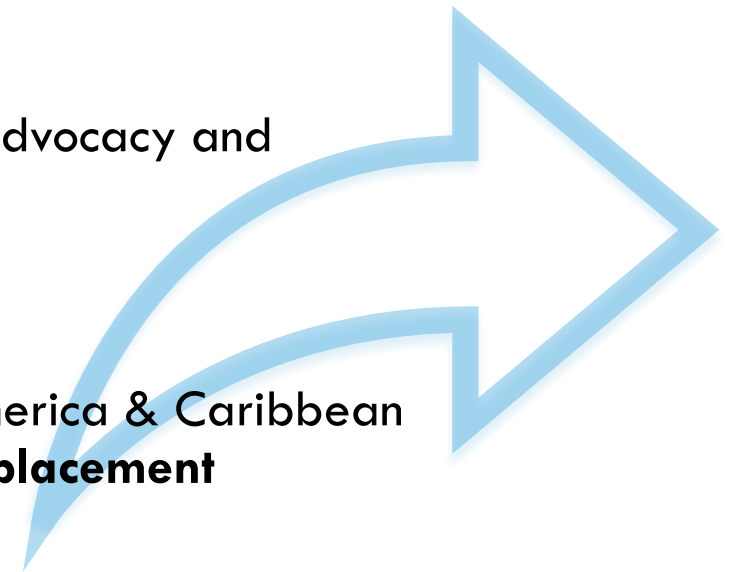
- Partnership with UNHCR, IOM, and the World Bank
- Linking with regional and global networks and platforms for global advocacy and outreach

Programme development

- **Housing, land and property** issues in the East and Horn of Africa
- **Addressing vulnerabilities and resilience** in six countries in Latin America & Caribbean
- Interventions in countries facing **large-scale and often protracted displacement**

Normative and policy support

- Affirmed the **key role of local governments** in durable solutions to internal displacement and the urban character in the Secretary-General's report on the **High-Level Panel on Internal Displacement**



| **Flagship Programme 4. Enhancing the Positive Impacts of Urban Migration**



Opportunities

- **extensive field level portfolio in all regions**
- **existing experience, tools, and methodologies feasible for support needs emerging in, for example, Eastern Europe and Ukraine**
- **Identify priority geographical areas where there is the greatest need and opportunity for UN-Habitat to add value to urban migration and displacement challenges**



Challenges

- **dramatic and steady increase in the number of displaced people/migrants globally**
- **limited knowledge and capacities of local governments on how to address challenges caused by displacement/migration**



| Flagship Programme 5. SDG Cities

The Flagship responds to the need for **accelerated action on the local implementation of SDGs** during this Decade of Action.

Four-tracked programme sequence



| Flagship Programme 5. SDG Cities

Progress since 2020

A bank of digitized tools

- Institutional diagnostic tools and capacity development tools and spatial data tools
- Established a **City Investment Facility**
- Global **SDG Cities Conference** series

Global SDG Cities Hubs

- City Monitoring, City Performance, Investment and City Certification

Implementation windows

- National Groupings, Local Government Networks, Cities in Least Developed Countries, Youth Networks, Women-led Businesses, and Faith Communities.

Programmes in 2022

SDG Cities pilots

Mafra, Portugal; Kasarine Ennour, Tunisia; Shanghai, China; Penang, Malaysia; La Paz, Bolivia and Kyebi, Ghana; Chefchaouen, Morocco.

Mobilising **SDG Cities national**

programmes in Ghana, Tunisia and Ecuador (64 Cities)

Mobilising **WomenLed SDG Cities** (50 cities) and **Capital Cities Initiative** (30 cities)



| Flagship Programme 5. SDG Cities



Opportunities

- **demand for SDG Cities Certification**
- **demand for technical assistance**
- **demand for finance for high impact projects**
- **interest of financiers to invest in SDGs in cities worldwide**

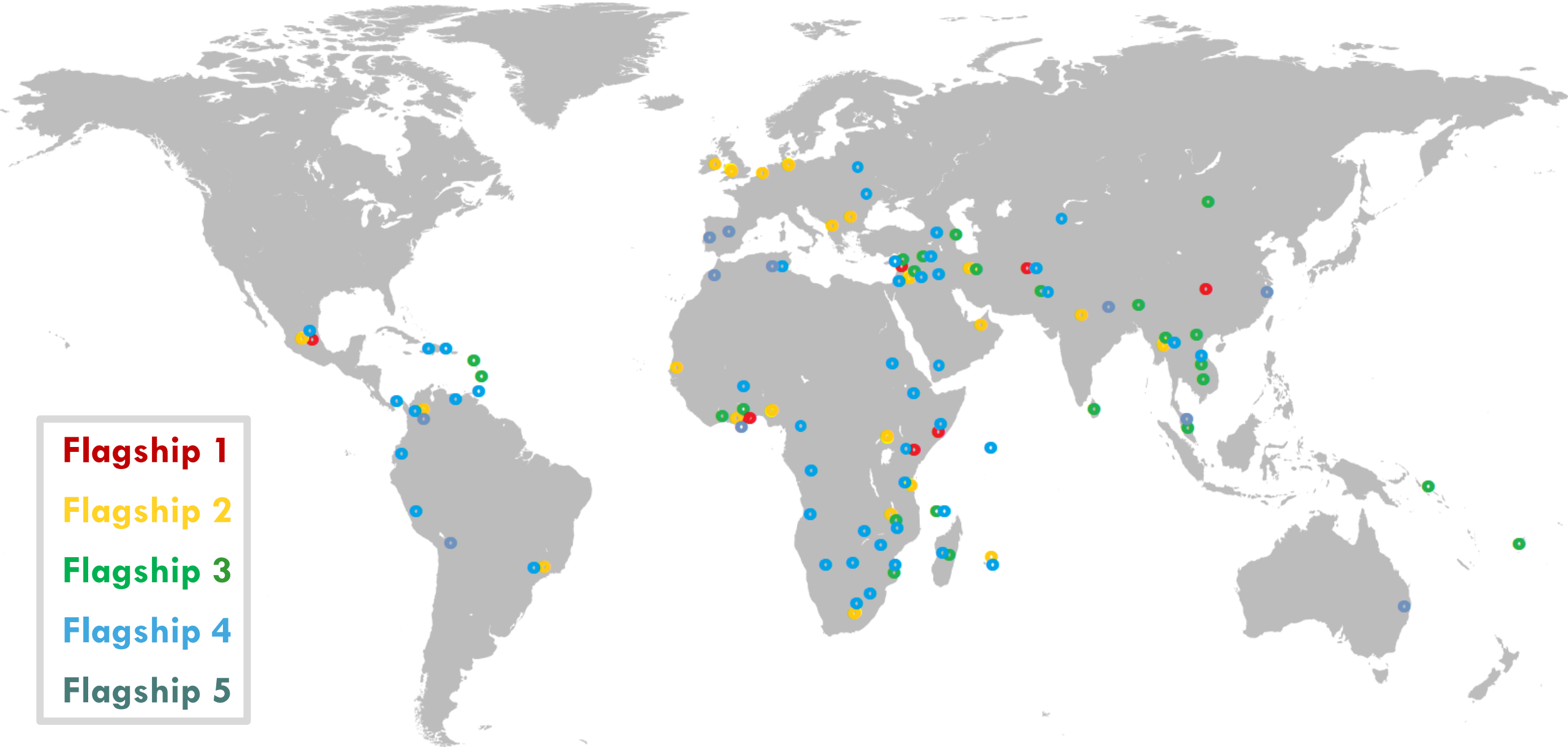


Challenges

- **the need for dedicated resources at the central level to support mobilising implementation windows, tool development, knowledge management and global coordination**



| Flagship Programmes' country presence in 2022 – 2023



| Expectations and proposed outcomes



Highlight the **importance of urban regeneration for the localisation of the SDGs**, showcasing the linkages between the housing, climate change and SDG priorities



Explore in a consultative manner the **development of international guidelines on people-friendly smart cities** to scale up good practice



Develop **strategic partnerships for 'Resilient Settlements for the Urban Poor'** by analyzing existing expertise, experience, best practices, and lessons learned and expand resource mobilization by disseminating success stories to relevant stakeholders



Identify **priority geographical areas** where there is the greatest need and opportunity for UN-Habitat to add value to wider United Nations' efforts in addressing **urban migration and displacement challenges** across the humanitarian-development-peace nexus



Develop **a model of SDG Cities Certification** to be recognized across the UN system in line with the United Nations Global Urban Monitoring Framework



CONCLUSIONS



Financial constraints: The progress of the Flagship Programmes has been unbalanced due to financial constraints. Yet, focus on partnerships and resource mobilization has generated positive projections.

Additional capacities and expertise: There is an urgent need to drive additional capacities and expertise towards core capacities to manage the flagship programmes.

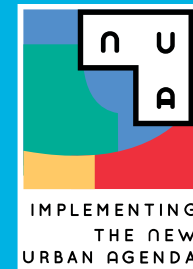
Seek **further convergence** across UN-Habitat's global programmes and the flagships.

For increase impact: The flagship programmes need to expand on their strategic partnership successes and gain increased soft- or hard earmarked.



THANK YOU

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