

## The second session of the United Nations Habitat Assembly

The second session of the United Nations Habitat Assembly will be held from 5 to 9 June 2023.

The deadline for application for Side Events **has been extended to Tuesday, 18 April 2023 (23:59 EAT)**.

The deadline for booking Urban Expo space is **Monday, 15 May 2023 (23:59 EAT)**.

As of 21 April 2023, there are nine substantive resolutions and six procedural resolutions under preparation by Member States. Apart from the resolutions, there are 156 applications to host side events for the 36 side event slots available.

960 people have registered (614 from Africa, 135 from Asia, 35 from North America, 138 from Europe, 1 from Oceania).

23 applications are received for exhibitions (out of a maximum of 50 booths).

All applicants must register on-line, including before submitting a Side Event application or an Urban Expo booking, through this [link](#).

Detailed guidelines with additional information are available [here](#).



## UN-Habitat's Executive Board: First meeting in 2023

The **first session of 2023 of the Executive Board of UN-Habitat** was held from 28 to 29 March 2023. 94 countries registered and a total of 432 participants attended the session. 4 ministers, 7 vice-ministers, 61 Permanent Representatives, 62 Deputy Permanent Representatives, 240 government officials and 58 partner organizations attended.

The Board considered the financial, budgetary, and administrative matters of UN-Habitat. Member States were also briefed on the status of preparations of the **second session of the United Nations Habitat Assembly to be held from 5 to 9 June 2023**. The Board also heard from the Secretariat regarding the Sustainable Development Goals Cities Certification, which responds to the need to help cities get on track with implementing the 2030 Development Agenda.

[Daily Journal Day 1](#) | [Daily Journal Day 2](#)



## UN-Habitat ROAP and partners focus on SDG11, UNHA2 and disability at the 10th APFSD in Bangkok

UN-Habitat's participation in the 10th Asia-Pacific Forum on Sustainable Development (APFSD) hosted by ESCAP on 27-31 March in Bangkok, Thailand, was significant as it led or co-led 14 of the sessions during the event. UN-Habitat's regional leadership of ROAP Fukuoka and the Bangkok Programme Office was joined by in-person UN-Habitat country teams from China, India, Myanmar, Nepal, Pakistan, Philippines, and Vietnam. UN-Habitat's participation focused on the review of SDG11, advancing disability mainstreaming in national urban policy, catalyzing national and local action on plastic pollution, promoting people-centered smart cities and localizing the SDGs, both in the Pacific and, with youth actions, in Southeast Asia.

ROAP tabled a [plenary statement](#) highlighting the theme of UNHA2. In a Side Event on the same, panelists including Ms. Funmi Balogun, UN Resident Coordinator of Timor-Leste, highlighted the importance of multilateralism in making meaningful and strategic partnerships for cities and urban actors.

### Executive Director's Report 2022

As with other organisations, UN-Habitat turned a corner in 2022 having supported Member States and vulnerable communities in cities and human settlements deal with Covid-19 and the socio-economic fallout arising from locked down economies. In 2022, UN-Habitat managed to turn a corner to arrive at a more positive place. At the end of the third year of the 2020-2023 Strategic Plan, UN-Habitat has mobilised approximately USD 540 million to implement the Strategic Plan.

[Learn More](#)

### The State of Arab Cities Report 2022

The State of Arab Cities report covers various issues that currently characterise the Arab region. The report presents the state of urbanisation in the region, with its key drivers and urbanisation trends and explores a selection of major challenges and opportunities in the region.

[Learn More](#)

### Future Cities Advisory Outlook 2022

Future Cities Advisory Outlook 2022: Building New Urban Resilience is the second flagship report of the UN-Habitat China Future Cities Council. This report provides a roadmap for cities to build new city resilience and calls for the initiative of "New Urban Resilience Action".

[Learn More](#)

## UN-Habitat's recent publications

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ARAB STATES

## Families benefit from a self-help rehabilitation project of damaged houses in the Gaza Strip

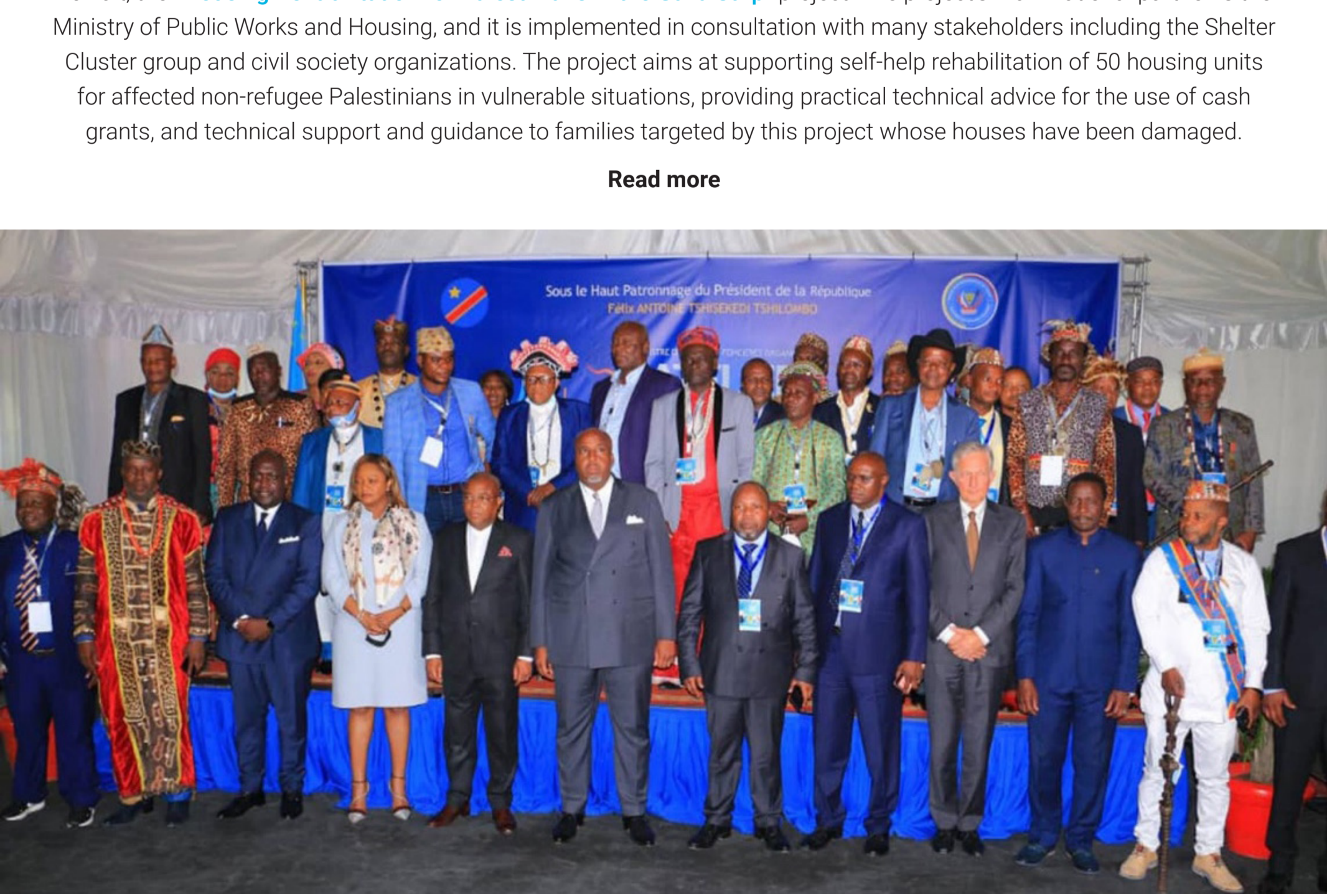
Manal Jirjawi, is a 44-year-old woman heading a family of 13 members living in Shajaiah area close to Gaza city. She signed on to a self-help rehabilitation process with UN-Habitat targeting her damaged house from the May 2021 escalations.

"It's already winter and with the weak structure of our home, we are suffering from the cold weather and the floods resulting from the rain. We are so grateful and thankful that we can now rehabilitate our home that was partially damaged during the May 2021 escalations. This will certainly provide safer and more adequate housing conditions for our family,"

Ms. Jirjawi stated during the consultation workshop held with beneficiaries.

UN-Habitat Palestine is implementing with financial support from the International Islamic Charity Organization – State of Kuwait, the **"Housing Rehabilitation for Palestinians in the Gaza Strip"** project. The project's main national partner is the Ministry of Public Works and Housing, and it is implemented in consultation with many stakeholders including the Shelter Cluster group and civil society organizations. The project aims at supporting self-help rehabilitation of 50 housing units for affected non-refugee Palestinians in vulnerable situations, providing practical technical advice for the use of cash grants, and technical support and guidance to families targeted by this project whose houses have been damaged.

[Read more](#)



AFRICA

## Mission accomplished for DR Congo's ten years land reform journey

UN-Habitat and the Global Land Tool Network have been supporting the **land policy reforms in DR Congo for 10 years**. The land policy was developed and approved through the Support to Land Reform and Capacity Development Programme in DRC with the support of the Central African Forest Initiative through FONAREDD.

Implementation of the Support to Land Reform and Capacity Development in DRC Programme has resulted in the development and the establishment of innovative Fit-For-Purpose land administration approaches and frameworks. The project also saw the establishment and operation of Local Land Committees and land registries in Ituri and Mai-Ndombe with the double mandate of securing the land rights of local communities and indigenous people and for resolution of land conflicts. In Ituri, more than 340 families were enumerated and mapped, an excess of 100 land conflicts were identified and resolved and 60 customary certificates produced and issued. In Mai-Ndombe, more than 250 families were enumerated, and more than 60 land conflicts were identified and at least 60 per cent of these conflicts were resolved.

The Local Land Committees played a key role in identifying land disputes and resolving them through mediation by way of the establishment of mediation commissions within the local land committee in Ituri and Mai-Ndombe. The project also saw the construction of a land administration office in Ituri, while construction is pending in Mai-Ndombe. Both pilot areas have now been equipped with the necessary modern equipment to facilitate the land administration and local land committee.

[Read more](#)



ASIA PACIFIC

## Philippine cities taking action to combat marine plastic litter

*"Through our efforts, we are able to promote sustainable practices and help change people's behavior towards proper waste management and zero-waste lifestyle."- Alie Agoylo, Naungan Fisherfolk Association, Ormoc City*

UN-Habitat Philippines, through the Healthy Oceans and Clean Cities Initiative (HOCCI), a project funded by the Government of Japan, has been supporting the Philippine government in localizing the National Plan of Action on Marine Litter. Since 2020, HOCCI has been working with the cities of Cagayan de Oro, Calapan, Davao, Legazpi, Manila, and Ormoc to help reduce marine plastic litter. The project has been contributing to improving urban environment by helping cities enhance data collection and waste management systems. It has also supported the global reporting methodology on SDG 11.6.1 by using the Waste Wise Cities Tool for city waste baselining.

To aid in policymaking and action planning at the national and local levels, the project developed papers on Extended Producer Responsibility, Waste Management Infrastructure Gap Assessment, and Community Behavior Change, as well tools for awareness-raising like the Marine Litter Learning Kit. Among the biggest contribution of the project are the **local actions demonstrated by the pilot cities**. With capacity-building and funding support from HOCCI, the six cities developed the first City Plan of Action on Marine Litter in the Philippines. The cities have been implementing pilot projects such as zero-waste refilling stores, washable cloth diapers as alternatives to plastic products, and optimizing waste collection and transport through smart technology.

[Read more](#)



LATIN AMERICA AND THE CARIBBEAN

## Ciudad Juarez in the US-Mexico border, advances towards sustainable urban development

Ciudad Juarez is an important city located in northern Mexico along the US-Mexico border, with a population of over 1.3 million people. It is a significant center for manufacturing, providing jobs and economic stability for the region. However, it is also a city that sees a large influx of migrants heading to the US and has high crime rates, particularly related to drug trafficking and organized crime.

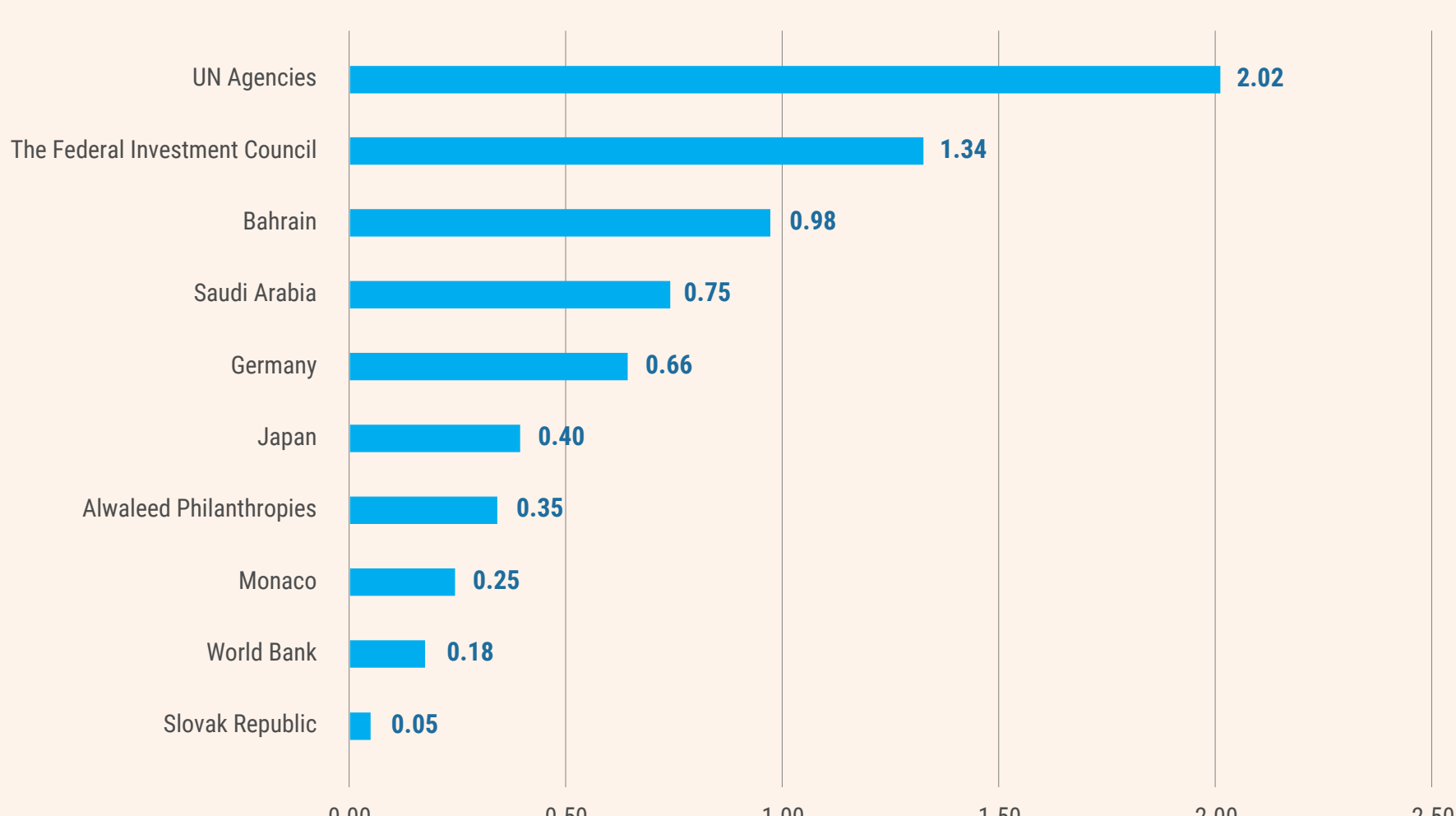
Since April 2022, UN-Habitat has been supporting the Government of Ciudad Juarez in developing a social, economic, and urban development strategy. This project involves the creation of a City Vision 2040, which will guide urban policies that align with the New Urban Agenda and promote actions that can be implemented in the short, medium, and long term. The goal is to develop a comprehensive plan for the city's growth and development, with a focus on addressing social and economic needs while ensuring sustainable and equitable urban development.

As from September 2022 to date, 10 participatory activities have been carried out and have contributed to the consolidation of the **Visión Ciudad Juárez 2040**, the integration of a Strategic Projects Portfolio, the Public Spaces Strategy and the Tactical Urbanism Interventions that will be implemented during May with the active involvement of the community.

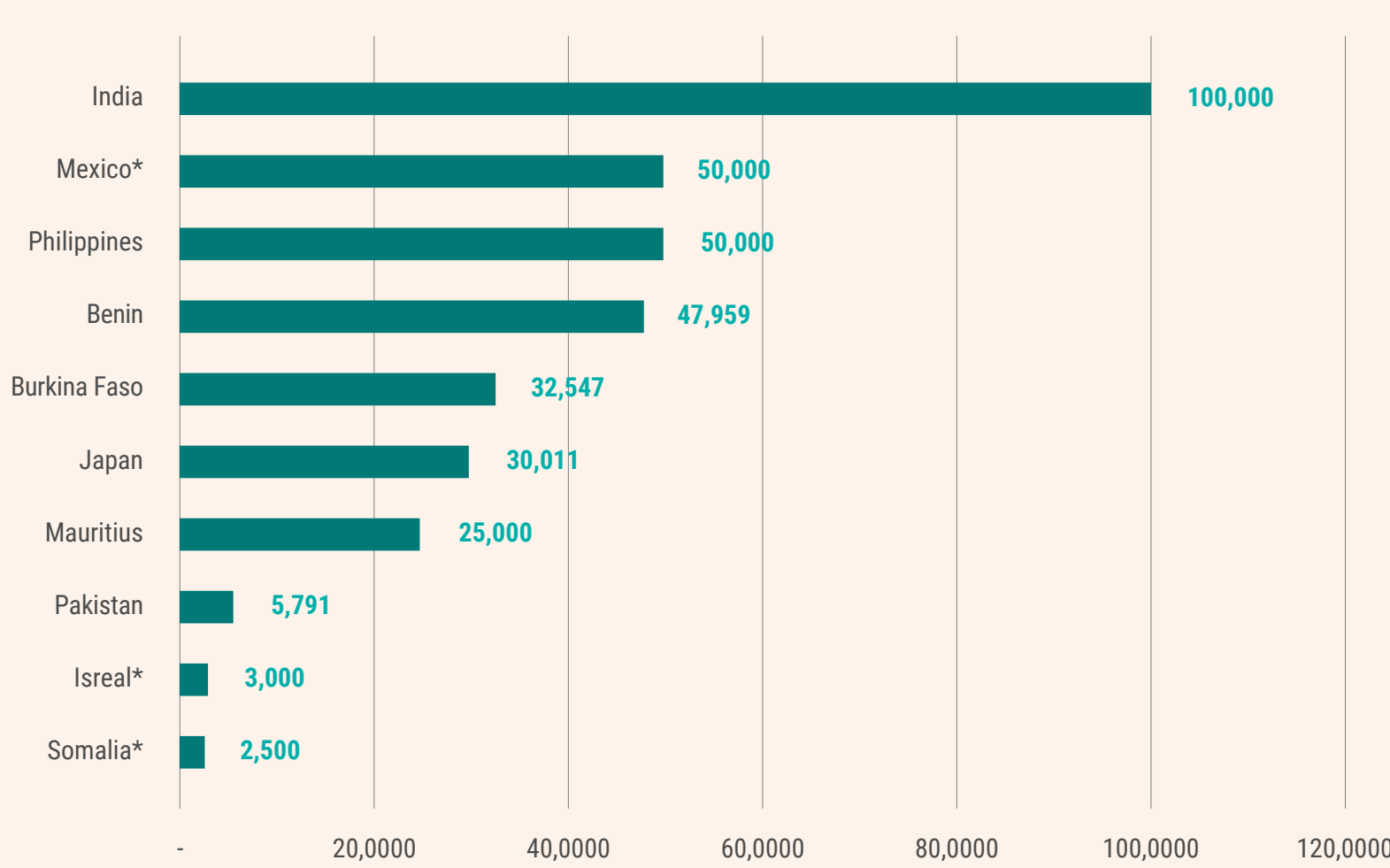
[Read more](#)

## Financial Update

### Top donors and development partners as of March 2023



### Core contributors as of 31 March 2023



\*Includes previous years' contributions

## Upcoming Events and Meetings

**High-Level Meeting of the UNGA on the Midterm Review of the Implementation of the Sendai Framework for DRR**  
18 - 19 May 2023

New York, USA

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**The 5th Global WOPs Congress & GWOPA Assembly in Bonn, Germany**  
22 - 25 May 2023

Bonn, Germany

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**Second UN-Habitat Assembly**  
5 - 9 June 2023

Nairobi, Kenya

[Learn More](#)

**High-Level Political Forum on Sustainable Development**  
10 - 20 July 2023

New York, USA

[Learn More](#)

