



**SUSTAINABLE URBANISATION  
&**

**SUSTAINABLE  
DEVELOPMENT  
GOALS**

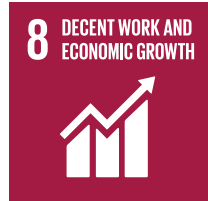
**UN HABITAT**  
FOR A BETTER URBAN FUTURE





# UN HABITAT

FOR A BETTER URBAN FUTURE



## THE 2030 AGENDA AND THE SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT GOALS

The 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development and the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) are a universal call to action to end poverty, protect the planet and ensure that all people enjoy peace and prosperity.

Developed by leaders from 193 countries around the world that were concerned about the future, the SDGs are crucial for the development of a sustainable, brighter future. The United Nations Human Settlement Program (UN-Habitat) is one of the leading organisations working to achieve the SDG targets by 2030. UN-Habitat plays a particularly crucial role in ensuring that Goal 11, one of the 17 SDGs, is addressed globally through all the Goals. Goal 11 is related to all of dimensions outlined by the SDGs, with a specific focus on urban areas and settings. The embedding of a stand-alone goal on cities and human settlements (Goal 11) in the SDGs is a recognition of the complimentary and re-enforcing nexus that exists between Goal 11 and the other SDGs. This publication briefly outlines the Sustainable Development Goals with a particular focus on their relation to SDG 11.



## Targets

### SDG Target 11.1

By 2030, ensure access for all to adequate, safe and affordable housing and basic services and upgrade slums

### SDG Target 11.2

By 2030, provide access to safe, affordable, accessible and sustainable transport systems for all, improving road safety, notably by expanding public transport, with special attention to the needs of those in vulnerable situations, women, children, persons with disabilities and older persons.

### SDG Target 11.3

By 2030, enhance inclusive and sustainable urbanization and capacity for participatory, integrated and sustainable human settlement planning and management in all countries.

### SDG Target 11.4

Strengthen efforts to protect and safeguard the world's cultural and natural heritage

### SDG Target 11.5

By 2030, significantly reduce the number of deaths and the number of people affected and substantially decrease the direct economic losses relative to global gross domestic product caused by disasters, including water-related disasters, with a focus on protecting the poor and people in vulnerable situations

## Current Indicators

**11.1.1** Proportion of urban population living in slums, informal settlements or inadequate housing. [Tier I]

**11.2.1** Proportion of population that has convenient access to public transport, by sex, age and persons with disabilities. [Tier II]

**11.3.1** Ratio of land consumption rate to population growth rate [Tier II]

**11.3.2** Proportion of cities with a direct participation structure of civil society in urban planning and management that operate regularly and democratically [Tier III]

**11.4.1** Total expenditure (public and private) per capita spent on the preservation, protection and conservation of all cultural and natural heritage, by type of heritage (cultural, natural, mixed and World Heritage Centre designation), level of government (national, regional and local/municipal), type of expenditure (operating expenditure/investment) and type of private funding (donations in kind, private non-profit sector and sponsorship). [Tier III]

**11.5.1** Number of deaths, missing persons and directly affected persons attributed to disasters per 100,000 population [Tier II]

**11.5.2** Direct disaster economic loss in relation to global GDP, damage to critical infrastructure and number of disruptions to basic services, attributed to disasters [Tier I]

## Targets

### SDG Target 11.6

By 2030, reduce the adverse per capita environmental impact of cities, including by paying special attention to air quality and municipal and other waste management

### SDG Target 11.7

By 2030, provide universal access to safe, inclusive and accessible, green and public spaces, in particular for women and children, older persons and persons with disabilities

### SDG Target 11.a

Support positive economic, social and environmental links between urban, periurban and rural areas by strengthening national and regional development planning.

### SDG Target 11.b

By 2020, substantially increase the number of cities and human settlements adopting and implementing integrated policies and plans towards inclusion, resource efficiency, mitigation and adaptation to climate change, resilience to disasters, and develop and implement, in line with the Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction 2015-2030, holistic disaster risk management at all levels.

### SDG Target 11.c

Support least developed countries, including through financial and technical assistance, in building sustainable and resilient buildings utilizing local materials.

## Current Indicators

**11.6.1** Proportion of urban solid waste regularly collected and with adequate final discharge out of total urban solid waste generated, by cities. [Tier II]

**11.6.2** Annual mean levels of fine particulate matter (e.g. PM2.5 and PM10) in cities (population weighted). [Tier I]

**11.7.1** Average share of the built-up area of cities that is open space for public use for all, by sex, age and persons with disabilities. [Tier III]

**11.7.2** Proportion of persons victim of physical or sexual harassment, by sex, age, disability status and place of occurrence, in the previous 12 months. [Tier III]

**11.a.1** Proportion of population living in cities that implement urban and regional development plans integrating population projections and resource needs, by size of city [Tier III]

**11.b.1** Number of countries that adopt and implement national disaster in line with the Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction 2015-2030a. [Tier I]

**11.b.2** Proportion of local governments that adopt and implement local disaster risk reduction strategies in line with national disaster risk reduction strategies [Tier II]

**11.c.1** Proportion of financial support to the least developed countries that is allocated to the construction and retrofitting of sustainable, resilient and resource-efficient buildings utilizing local materials. [Tier III]



## SDG 11 AND LINKAGES WITH THE SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT GOALS

Poorly managed urbanization constitutes a major threat to achieving the SDGs either through direct or indirect effects on climate change, ecosystems, energy security, waste management, housing, urban mobility, etc. Some of the links between the SDGs 11 targets and other SDGs are clear e.g with SDG 1 on poverty or access to basic services, SDG 3 on health, SDG 4 on education, SDG 5 on gender equality, Goal 9 on building resilient infrastructure and promoting sustainable industrialization, Goal 12 on ensuring sustainable consumption and production patterns, SDG 16 on good governance, and SDG17 on partnerships and means of implementation, etc. Other targets such as those linked to climate change, financing, sustainable production and consumption, inequalities, infrastructure and basic services, gender-based violence, food security and nutrition, and migration are inextricably linked to many targets of goal 11. Where positive connections are established, relevant policies must be integrated and reinforced to support these linkages. In instances where the interlinkages create negative externalities or trade-offs, existing policies must play a facilitative role to lower the undesired impacts. Achieving sustainable development requires addressing several development challenges in cities such as - poverty, inadequate infrastructure, poor health institutions, increased slum dwellings, negative environmental impacts, inadequate transport and safe water access. Addressing such challenges goes beyond the Goal 11 targets, and requires working across and simultaneously on several agendas and goals within the SDGs.





**9** INDUSTRY, INNOVATION AND INFRASTRUCTURE

**10** REDUCED INEQUALITIES

**12** RESPONSIBLE CONSUMPTION

**13** CLIMATE ACTION

**14** LIFE BELOW WATER

**15** LIFE ON LAND

**16** PEACE AND JUSTICE

**17** PARTNERSHIPS FOR THE GOALS

# 11 SUSTAINABLE CITIES AND COMMUNITIES

- 11.1
- 11.2
- 11.3
- 11.4
- 11.5
- 11.6
- 11.7
- 11.a
- 11.b
- 11.c

**1** NO POVERTY

**2** ZERO HUNGER

**3** GOOD HEALTH

**4** QUALITY EDUCATION

**5** GENDER EQUALITY

**6** CLEAN WATER AND SANITATION

**7** AFFORDABLE AND CLEAN ENERGY

**8** DECENT WORK AND ECONOMIC GROWTH



## **“Make cities and human settlement inclusive, safe, resilient and sustainable.”**

Goal 11 seeks to “make cities and human settlement inclusive, safe, resilient and sustainable” through eliminating slumlike conditions, providing accessible and affordable transport systems, reducing urban sprawl, increasing participation in urban governance, enhancing cultural and heritage preservation, addressing urban resilience and climate change challenges, better management of urban environments (pollution and waste management), providing access to safe and secure public spaces for all, and improving urban management through better urban policies and regulations. Goal 11 consists of 10 targets and 15 related indicators, majority of which are to be measured at the local city level and progress reported at the national level.

Since 2007, more than half the world’s population live in cities or urban centres. Estimates show that by 2030, cities will be home to 60% of the global population, a share that will further increase to about 68.4% by 2050. Between 2010 and 2050, it is estimated that between 2.5 to 3 billion people will be added to the urban population worldwide; with the highest growth projected to be in less developed regions such as East Asia, South Asia, and sub-Saharan Africa. From MDGs to SDGs, the global community has in the last twenty years witnessed the emergence of urbanization as a key development trend. The importance of urbanization for attainment of collective and inclusive progress features prominently in the



post 2015 development agenda - “Transforming our world: the 2030 Agenda for sustainable development”, through the endorsement of a goal on cities (Goal 11), known as the ‘urban SDG’ – make cities and human settlements inclusive, safe, resilient and sustainable. Cities drive innovation, consumption and investment worldwide, making them a positive and potent force for addressing sustainable economic growth, urban development and prosperity. Today, cities are powerhouses of economic growth contributing about 80 percent of global GDP, and functioning as catalysts for inclusion and innovation. However, cities also account for about 70 percent of global energy consumption and 70 percent of global carbon emissions, as well as over 70% of resource use, and within the context of unplanned or poorly governed urbanization, cities are often characterized by stark socioeconomic inequalities, social exclusion, extreme poverty, high unemployment, slums, unaffordable and inadequate housing, and poor environment conditions as well as unsustainable environmental footprints beyond the city boundaries.

These interrelations are important to formulate integrated policies and plans needed to achieve sustainable urban development. With Goal 11, the global community acknowledged well-planned urban development as a key driver for sustainable development, recognizing that beyond the development challenges brought about by urbanization, cities offer formidable opportunities and alternatives for achieving development worldwide.



“End poverty in all its forms everywhere.”

Extreme poverty has been cut by more than half since 1990. Still, more than 1 in 5 people live on less than the target figure of US\$1.25 per day. People live in poverty if they lack basic services such as healthcare, security, and education. They also experience hunger, social discrimination, and exclusion from decision-making processes.

The aim of the 2030 Agenda is to improve the lives of people in all human settlements around the world, increase prosperity and tackle planetary issues such as climate change, etc. The people centric aspect of the New Urban Agenda, correlates with various challenges and goals, such as the need to tackle food insecurity, poverty and health. SDG 1, on poverty eradication, is closely linked to SDG 11 as trends indicate that with humanity becoming increasingly urban, poverty is also becoming increasingly urban and often represented by rise of slum dwellers in cities across developing countries who lack access to basic services and adequate housing. It also captures security of land tenure which is key in urban areas for provision of services, but also offers a foundation for access to a basic means of production— land.



**“End hunger, achieve food security and improved nutrition, and promote sustainable agriculture.”**

Goal 2 states that by 2030 we should end hunger and all forms of malnutrition. This can be achieved by ensuring sustainable food production systems, and by progressively improving land and soil quality. Globally, 1 in 9 people are undernourished, the vast majority of whom live in developing countries. Undernutrition contributes to nearly half (45%) of deaths in children under five, that is over 3 million children per year.

Sustainable urbanization, which considers land requirements for agriculture, is a requirement for attaining SDG 2. Increasing food security and nutrition for the poor through inclusive participation deals with nutrition and agricultural challenges for those in urban and rural areas. Shortages of agricultural land for urban areas constrains social welfare and development within cities. The presence of cultivatable land for farming provides food for the urban areas and can support agricultural productivity whilst improving the livelihoods of rural populations.



**“Ensure healthy lives and promote well-being for all at all ages.”**

Goal 3 aims to achieve universal health coverage, including access to essential medicines and vaccines. It proposes to end the preventable death of newborns and children under 5 and to end epidemics such as AIDS, tuberculosis, malaria, and water-borne diseases, for example.

Good health and cities are greatly interlinked as health is often affected by “place”. Indeed, inclusive cities through integrated urban planning, access to basic services, decent and affordable housing (Targets 11.1, 11.2, 11.3, 11.7, 11.6) reduce non-communicable diseases and limit environmental hazards such as air pollution and dangerous traffic, contributing to better health. Indeed, poorly designed cities exacerbate health challenges leading to instability of cities and affecting the well-being of communities, through air pollution, congestion, spread of diseases and reduced labor productivity. Rapid and unplanned urbanization lead to increase in road traffic accidents, environmental and health hazards that greatly affect the health of city dwellers. Thus, cities and infrastructure play an important role in public health and well-being, and are at the nexus of poverty, health and environment.



## “Ensure inclusive and equitable quality education and promote lifelong learning opportunities for all.”

Major progress has been made in access to education, specifically at the primary school level, for both boys and girls. Still, at least 22 million children in 43 countries will miss out on pre-primary education unless the rate of progress doubles. Access does not always mean quality of education or completion of primary school. In one out of four countries, more than half of children failed to meet minimum math proficiency standards at the end of primary school, over 100 million youth worldwide still lack basic literacy skills, and more than 60 percent of those are women.

Achieving SDG 4 will contribute significantly to making cities inclusive and sustainable through better access to education by the urban poor and those facing vulnerability who often live in slums. Inclusive and equitable education may help slum dwellers have adequate skills for decent jobs, which in turn will contribute to improving their living conditions. Furthermore, ending all forms of discrimination and eradicating discrimination for women and girls in terms of education is crucial to the achievement of inclusive cities for sustainable development worldwide.



**“Achieve gender equality and empower all women and girls.”**

According to the UN, “gender equality is not only a fundamental human right, but a necessary foundation for a peaceful, prosperous and sustainable world.” Providing women and girls with equal access to education, health care, decent work, and representation in political and economic decision-making processes will nurture sustainable economies and benefit societies and humanity at large.

SDG 5 is linked to SDG 11 in a multitude of ways such as through access to and safety in public spaces, access and use of basic infrastructure, and participation in local governance and decision-making (Targets 11.2, 11.3, 11.7). Mainstreaming issues of gender in efforts to achieve SDG 11 targets will promote inclusion and empowerment of women (including by providing women with greater access to resource and productivity in cities) and help ensure the development of inclusive and sustainable cities.





**“Ensure availability and sustainable management of water and sanitation for all.”**

Everyone on earth should have access to safe and affordable drinking water. Water scarcity affects more than 40 percent of people around the world, and that number is projected to go even higher as a result of climate change. If we continue the path we’re on, by 2050 at least one in four people are likely to be affected by recurring water shortages.

SDG 6 is connected to SDG 11 through Target 11.6 which calls for reduction of per capita environmental impact of cities, through reduction of air pollution and better management of waste generated by cities. Effective urban planning and urban waste management systems are crucial to ensuring access to safe drinking water, sanitation and hygiene, and to improving the quality and sustainability of water resources worldwide. In turn, achieving SDG 6 will help in promoting better housing and slum upgrading (Target 11.1) but also in reducing the number of people affected by water pollution (Target 11.5). Cities account for much of human and urban solid waste, which is directly linked to several other targets under SDG6 and SDG11, and hence our joint efforts for the two goals are crucial in ensuring the kind of cities and world we build.



**“Ensure access to affordable, reliable, sustainable and modern energy for all.”**

SDG 7 calls for access to affordable, reliable, sustainable, and modern energy for all. This encompasses improving energy efficiency and enhancing international cooperation to facilitate more open access to clean energy technology and more investment in clean energy infrastructure.

Given the role of energy in addressing the economic, social and environmental dimensions underlined by the SDGs, SDG 7 is connected to many other goals including SDG 11. Access to clean and efficient energy systems is critical for the development of safe, resilient, inclusive and sustainable human settlements, allowing them to grow and perform efficiently. In turn, SDG 11 creates the condition for achieving SDG 7 through access to more sustainable transport, housing, urban planning, reduced pollution and mitigation of climate change. However, unsustainable patterns of consumption in urban areas may contribute to environmental degradation in various forms, including direct energy consumption as well as embedded energy in goods and services.



**“Promote sustained, inclusive and sustainable economic growth, full and productive employment and decent work for all.”**

SDG 8 promotes sustained, inclusive and sustainable economic growth, full and productive employment and decent work for all. By 2030, for the least developed countries, the target is to attain at least a 7 percent annual growth in gross domestic product (GDP) and to establish policies for sustainable tourism that will create jobs. An important part of economic growth is that people have jobs that pay enough to support themselves and their families.

Cities are positive and potent force for addressing sustainable economic growth, and prosperity as they drive innovation, consumption and investment. Indeed, cities contribute to 80 percent of global GDP worldwide. As such, inclusive and sustainable cities are key to achieving SDG 8 through innovation, entrepreneurship, job creation and greater productivity. In turn, inclusive and sustainable economic growth will promote inclusive and resilient cities (better housing, urban planning, access to basic services).



**“Build resilient infrastructure,  
promote inclusive and sustainable  
industrialization, and foster innovation”**

The more connected we are, the more we can all benefit from the wisdom and contributions of people everywhere on earth. And yet four billion people have no way of getting online, the vast majority of them in developing countries. Infrastructural development and the application of innovative technologies, such as ITS, can help leapfrog technology, innovation and industrial diversification leading to resilient, sustainable and inclusive cities.

Investment in infrastructure and the application of innovative technologies, such as Intelligent Transport Systems (ITS) are critical factors for achieving urban development. As such, SDG 9 - Build resilient infrastructure, promote inclusive and sustainable industrialization and foster innovation – is strongly connected to SDG 11 (Targets 11.2, 11.3, 11.7, and 11.6). Investment in infrastructure, industrialization and innovation are key to making cities safe and sustainable at the latter involves investment in smart infrastructure for public and non-motorised transport, clean energy systems such as modern district energy for heating and cooling, creating green and blue public spaces, and improving urban planning and management in a way that is both participatory and inclusive.



**“Reduce income inequality within and among countries.”**

It is well documented that income inequality is on the rise, with the richest 10 percent earning up to 40 percent of total global income. The poorest 10 percent earn only between 2 percent and 7 percent of total global income. In developing countries, inequality has increased by 11 percent if we take into account the growth of population. These widening disparities require the adoption of sound policies to empower the bottom percentile of income earners, and promote economic inclusion of all regardless of sex, race or ethnicity.

Inequalities are very prevalent in cities and come in many complex ways, but cities are also best positioned to address prevailing inequalities through better opportunities for employment, fixing affordable housing challenges, providing better spaces for inclusion, accessible transport, etc. Therefore, there is need for SDG11 efforts to tightly link with other goals such as SDG 10 to address social, political, economic, ethnic, racial, and other inequalities playing out in urban areas. Exclusion and marginalization that are also experienced by people with disabilities, refugees and migrants play out in complex ways in cities; and poor urban planning, design and governance can exacerbate these, or in fact offer viable solutions for addressing these challenges. At the same time, the focus on cities in SDG 11 and other SDG targets focusing on rural inequalities will help ensure that such inequities are not hidden behind national averages.



**“Ensure sustainable consumption and production patterns.”**

To achieve sustainable consumption our natural resources must be managed more efficiently, and the disposal of toxic waste needs to be improved. Both businesses and consumers need to reduce and recycle waste.

Cities are key to achieving sustainable patterns of production and consumption given their prominent roles as producers and consumers worldwide. Cities account for over 70% of GHG emissions as well as use of natural resources. SDG 11 contributes to achieving SDG 12 through efficient management of natural resources, safe disposal and treatment of toxic waste and pollutants (Targets 11.6, 11.b). Cities that use their resources efficiently in an innovative manner increase their productivity and reduce their environmental impacts, offering their residents greater consumption choices and sustainable lifestyles. Particularly, integrated city planning that reduces sprawl can improve sustainable consumption patterns. Standards for buildings, energy and transport can help reduce embedded energy as well as reduced material footprint. In turn, sustainable consumption and sustainable patterns promote inclusive, resilient and sustainable cities by reducing latent stressors. However, the interlinkages can also be negative in instances where unsustainable patterns of consumption or production in urban areas contribute to environmental degradation.



**“Take urgent action to combat climate change and its impacts by regulating emissions and promoting developments in renewable energy.”**

Adequately addressing climate change will only be possible if the SDGs are met. Further, economic development and climate change are inextricably linked, particularly around poverty, gender equality, and energy. On average, the annual losses just from earthquakes, tsunamis, tropical cyclones and flooding count in the hundreds of billions of dollars.

Cities are particularly vulnerable to climate change and impacts from natural disasters. Today Hundreds of millions of urban dwellers are at risk from the direct and indirect impacts of current and likely future climate change—for instance, from more severe or frequent storms, floods and heatwaves, constraints on fresh water and food supplies, and higher risks from a range of water-borne, foodborne and vector-borne diseases. Cities are also contributors to climate change, accounting for between 60 and 80% of energy consumption, large amounts of solid waste and responsible for nearly 70 % of all greenhouse gases emissions. As such, SDG 13 - “Take urgent action to combat climate change and its impacts” is a key for achieving sustainability elements of SDG 11. In turn, Goal 11 offers many opportunities to develop mitigation and adaptation strategies to address climate change especially through environmentally sustainable and resilient urban development (Targets 11.2, 11.5, 11.b, 11.c.), as well as ensuring responsible urban development plans and policies through target 11a.



**“Conserve and sustainably use the oceans, seas and marine resources for sustainable development.”**

Oceans cover 71 percent of the Earth’s surface. They are essential for making the planet liveable. Rainwater, drinking water and climate are all regulated by ocean temperatures and currents. Over 3 billion people depend on marine life for their livelihood. On top of this oceans absorb around 30 percent of all carbon dioxide produced by humans

Achievement of SDG 11 has direct positive impact on achieving Goal 14 through proper management of waste generated by cities that can pollute oceans. Coastal cities and human settlements often increase pressure on the environment. Indeed, pollution in oceans is often caused by pollution from cities. At the same time, achieving SDG 14 also reinforces sustainable urban planning and resilient settlements, given that urban development often occurs along coasts due to economic advantages and opportunities presented by coastal areas. The inter-linkages between SDG 11 on one hand and SDG 14 on the other are clear through the need to conserve our biodiversity. The way we perceive urbanization has large implications for how its likely future influence on food and farming is perceived. Urbanization brings major changes in demand for agricultural products both from increases in urban populations and from changes in their diets and demands. This has brought and continues to bring major changes in how demands are met and the farmers, companies, corporations, and local and national economies who benefit from it.





**“Protect, restore and promote sustainable use of terrestrial ecosystems, sustainably manage forests, combat desertification, and halt and reverse land degradation and halt biodiversity loss.”**

SDG 15 calls for the conservation and restoration of the use of terrestrial ecosystems such as forests, wetlands, drylands and mountains. Ecosystems and biodiversity are important for human life as they facilitate access to basic services and provide conditions for human production, consumption and habitation worldwide. For example plant life makes up 80% of the human diet, sustenance and livelihoods of humanity hinges on the earth and the ocean.

SDG 11 contributes to achieving SDG 15 by promoting sustainable urbanization (Target 11.3), better urban planning (Targets 11.2, 11.b, 11.c), development of green infrastructures (Target 11.7), safe management and treatment of waste (Target 11.6), protection of the world’s natural heritage (Target 11.4). In turn, SDG 15 contributes to developing sustainable cities and human settlements through advocating for nature-based solutions and disaster risk reduction. On the negative side, uncontrolled sprawling can have negative impacts on SDG 15. Urban sprawling and low-density development are linked to loss of valuable agricultural land, and natural ecosystem, environmental degradation and the exacerbation of the effects of extreme climate events.



**“Promote peaceful and inclusive societies for sustainable development, provide access to justice for all and build effective, accountable and inclusive institutions at all levels.”**

Reducing violent crime, sex trafficking, forced labor, and child abuse are clear global goals. The International Community values peace and justice and calls for stronger judicial systems that will enforce laws and work toward a more peaceful and just society.

Like all the other SDGs, SDG 11 will only be achieved if there is peace and effective governance and financial and institutional resources for implementation. As humanity becomes increasingly urban, the kind of urban societies we build will greatly shape our progress towards 2030. The urban dimensions of crime, violence and insecurity will need to feature in efforts to achieve both SDG 11 and SDG 16 targets. Corruption and illicit financial flows are increasingly conducted in cities and connected to many urban development efforts. Peaceful, inclusive and sustainable cities require more than careful urban planning; they rely on the kind of institutions we build in cities, and on how we govern our cities and the process of urbanization itself.



**“Strengthen the means of implementation and revitalize the global partnership for sustainable development.”**

Increasing international cooperation is seen as vital to achieving each of the 16 previous goals. Achieving the SDGs, including Goal 11, will only be possible if there are strong partnerships within and across with all the goals. Partnerships for sustainable urban development involve a wide network of actors, including international organizations, member states, international and regional associations of cities, NGOs, the private sector, specialized funding bodies, goodwill ambassadors and civil societies, and National Commissions. There are several ongoing partnerships such as work led by UN-HABITAT, UNISDR, WHO, UNEP, UNESCO, other UN agencies and intergovernmental organizations to better coordinate activities on the targets and agree on frameworks for action. These partnerships seek to provide technical and operational guidance for post disaster city reconstruction and recovery programmes, and to develop tools to assess capacity at the national level for DRR in the culture sector.

**Urbanization is an unstoppable phenomenon**

► ***The world is rapidly urbanising***

# The New Urban Agenda

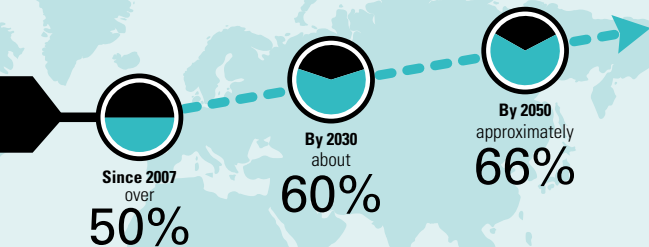
The New Urban Agenda (NUA) is an extension of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, effectively complementing the SDG processes. The New Urban Agenda builds on SDG 11, but addresses a wider range of urbanization and human settlements issues. It enables implementation of SDG11 in a more expansive and integrated way by addressing essential strategic spatial and governance frameworks as well as national urban policies, legislation, spatial planning and local finance frameworks.

Crucially it helps provide a spatial framework for the delivery of SDGs within urban areas by focusing on local level implementation, placing increased emphasis on the need to develop the capacity of local authorities and other local actors for NUA and SDG implementation at the urban local level.

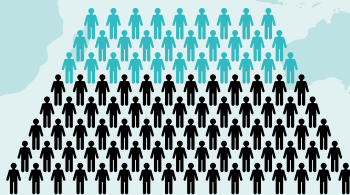
*The world's population living in cities or urban centres has risen steadily over the years*



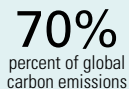
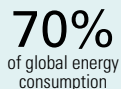
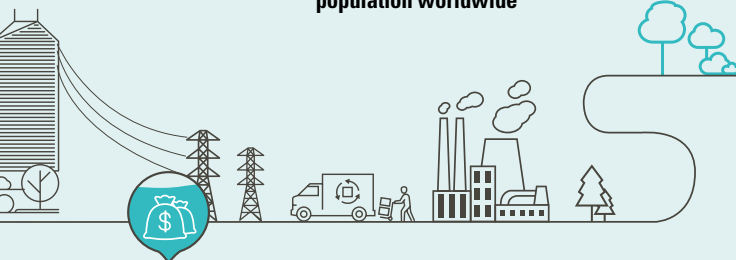
***Cities contribute to***



*Urban areas will be increasingly critical for achieving all SDGs and integrating the social, economic and environmental goals set forth in the 2030 Agenda*



From 2010 to 2050  
**2.5 to 3 billion people**  
will be added to the urban  
population worldwide





# How Can I Help?

**Raise awareness  
and spread the word**

Do you live in a city? Over 50% of the world's population lives in urban areas and this is growing considerably every year. To ensure a more sustainable future for all, it is crucial that we raise awareness of the importance of the SDGs and the effect on our lives that the current rate of rapidly developing urbanisation has. – Visit the [UN-Habitat website](#), [Facebook](#), [Instagram](#) or [Twitter](#) and share the content that means something to you.

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