Thematic/Country Presentation at the 56th Regular Meeting of the CPR

UN-Habitat in Rwanda

10 June 2015
FACT SHEET RWANDA

• Rwanda is among the smallest countries in Africa, but has the highest population density

• Due to its topography, only 60% of the land is suitable for building human settlements

• Annual urban growth is 5% and the country ranks 3rd in Sub-Saharan Africa in the Doing Business Index.

• The country’s vision is to increase the proportion of urban population from current 17% to 35% by 2020.
UN-HABITAT INTERVENTIONS IN RWANDA: PAST, PRESENT AND FUTURE

1994-2003

- emergency response & reconstruction

2003-2012

- Sustainable development
  - sanitation/water/drainage projects
  - youth employment

2012-2018

- Achieving Sustainable Urban Development (ASUD), National Urbanisation Policy + planning support
  - capacity development

Achieving Sustainable Urban Development (ASUD), National Urbanisation Policy + planning support

Sustainable development

Sanitation/water/drainage projects

Youth employment

Emergency response & reconstruction

Capacity development
SOME OF THE UN-HABITAT WORK IN RWANDA

Rubavu
- Resettlement
- Master plan development

Karongi
- Water and Sanitation

Rusizi
- Slum upgrading

Nyagatare
- Master plan development

Kigali
- One stop youth center
- Agatare Informal Settlement upgrade

Bugesera
- Refugee shelters
HIGHLIGHTS OF THE CPR VISIT TO RWANDA: 22-25 February 2015

• Permanent and Deputy Permanent Representatives from 20 member states from Latin and North America, Europe, Africa, Arab States and Asia joined the visit

• In the city of Rubavu, UN-Habitat supported the resettlement from a high risk zone in a mountain slope; the mountain now became a tourist attraction, giving an economic impulse to the city.
“A clear vision that recognises urbanisation as an opportunity for sustainable development is needed. Only the fact that the Government of Rwanda has selected six intermediate cities to form, together with Kigali, a system of cities which can sustain the national development of the country is by itself already a great step towards the definition of a National Urbanisation Policy.” (Dr. Joan Clos, UN-Habitat Executive Director)

“UN-Habitat has had an important impact in Rwanda by providing technical assistance and capacity building to develop local urban master plans.” (Mr. Christian Rwakunda, Permanent Secretary in the Ministry of Infrastructure).
HIGHLIGHTS OF THE CPR VISIT TO RWANDA (cont.)

• In Kigali, the delegation visited the Youth Centre and the One Stop Centre of the city where planning, land allocation and building permits emission is unified.

• The President of Rwanda, H.E. Paul Kagame, received the CPR members and expressed the important role UN-Habitat plays in Rwanda’s urbanisation process.
ONE STOP YOUTH CENTRE IN KIGALI

Youth empowerment through skills training
Enhanced access to job opportunities for the youth
Improve girls/young women engagement and participation
Better access to health information for the surrounding informal settlements
RESETTLEMENT IN RUBAVU

- Reduced exposure to disaster risk related to vulnerable terrain
- Improved environmental protection
- Enhanced job creation
- Access to improved settlements and basic services for women and men
CAPACITY BUILDING

Capacity building of various stakeholders (technicians, experts, leaders) on-the-job, to enhance ownership of key urban planning processes

Improved participation of all stakeholders in key policy and planning processes
ACHIEVING SUSTAINABLE URBAN DEVELOPMENT (ASUD) IN RWANDA: THE 3 LEGGED APPROACH
ASUD IN RWANDA: NATIONAL URBANISATION POLICY

Enabling framework to enhance the legal, financial and planning pre-requisites for achieving sustainable urbanisation.

Aims to improve institutional coordination and governance systems, urban planning and management and socio-economic aspects related to urbanisation.

It includes the elaboration of a Spatial Development Framework which can enhances urban-rural linkages.
Planned City Extension

Participatory process; Training of local staff

Master plan balances design, finance and legal issues

It accommodates the future population’s needs
CPR MEMBERS RECOMMENDATIONS AND WAY FORWARD

- Improve the global visibility of UN-Habitat work at the country level
- Focus more institutional capacity building, gender issues, jobs/economic development and on the effects of industrialisation
- Stress the importance of planning ahead to prevent chaotic urbanisation and slums and develop business plans of the intermediate cities being supported
- Complete the National Urbanisation Policy and of the Spatial Development Framework
- Support the development and use of IT based solutions in urban governance, planning, finance and legislation