Induction Seminar

Introduction to UN-Habitat

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MISSION AND VISION

Sustainable Urban Development

1976 – Habitat I meeting in Vancouver

1978 - United Nations Center for Human Settlements (UNCHS) established

1996 – The Habitat Agenda – Habitat II conference in Istanbul, Turkey

2000 – Millennium Declaration – MDGs targets on slum dwellers, access to water and sanitation

2002 – Center upgraded to the United Nations Human Settlements Programme
Mandate & Vision of UN-HABITAT

• Improving the living conditions of the increasing numbers of people who are living in towns and cities all over the world;

• Promoting excellence in programme delivery, whilst striving towards greater programmatic focus & coherence;

• It will build on its achievements & good practices and, in terms of substance, will focus on key priority areas identified
**UN-HABITAT Priority Areas**

**Sustainable urban development** is the theme of UN-HABITAT’s Medium Term Strategic Plan (MTSIP) 2008-2013

Within the framework of the current MTSIP, & of the Strategic Plan 2014-2019 which is currently being developed, 3 programmatic areas have been prioritised in UN-HABITAT’s work, namely:

1. **Urban Planning and Design;** with emphasis on planning in advance of migration and population growth;

2. **Urban land, legislation and governance;** and

3. **Urban Economy,** including creation of decent jobs in urban areas
Building on what has been achieved so far, work will continue in areas that UN-HABITAT has firmly established itself in over the years, including:

4. Urban Basic Services
5. Housing & Slum Upgrading
6. Risk Reduction & Rehabilitation
7. Research & Capacity Development
Issues to be defined and addressed in a new strategic direction

To Increase:

• **EFFICIENCY** in the field:
  
  Project selection not shallow but deeper

• **PRODUCTIVITY** in normative work:
  
  Substantive knowledge excellence

• **TRANSPARENCY**:
  
  Project allocated resources based on needs

• **ACCOUNTABILITY**:
  
  Project Based Accrual accountability
Challenges hampering effective delivery of UN-HABITAT mandate of substantive and managerial nature have been identified in various assessments, MTSIP Peer Review, MTSIP progress reports, CPR & donors, & Office of Internal Oversight Service (OIOS) include:

• Need for effective management systems based on evidence, improving core productivity, minimising bureaucratic load
• Need for strong & well-coordinated internal strategic planning & implementation function
• Increased capacity to harvest relevant & strategic knowledge, innovation & lessons learnt
• Financial constraints
• Scope for improved efficiency in delivery of field projects, especially emergencies
• More rational organizational structure
How we intend to achieve our priorities

Main elements of new Organizational Structure:

• A horizontal, flatter matrix organization;

• A project-based organization which brings together normative and operational work under each project;

• A more flexible organization with staff more easily available to work between units;

• An organization with clear delegation of authority down to the project level;

• Both existing field projects and normative/policy work to be managed through a project-based accountability approach (PAAS)
Financial Resources

Sources of funding
Top ten donor countries give 75% of funding
Regular budget 5%

Type of funding
General purpose funds (8%)
Earmarked funds (92%)

Special funds e.g. Water and Sanitation Trust Fund, Programme for the Palestinian People, Experimental Reimbursable Seeding Operations Trust Fund, Slum Upgrading Facility, etc.

Technical cooperation at country level and special programmes e.g. Lake Victoria Programme, Safer Cities Programme, Global Land Tool Network, etc.
OUR PARTNERS

- Governments
- Local authorities and their associations
- Inter-governmental organizations
- Civil society
- Private sector
- Research and professional institutions
The CPR, being our closest policy and advocacy organ, has a key role in ensuring that UN-HABITAT achieves the following:

1. Ensure that urbanisation is taken as a priority in the Sustainable Development agenda at all levels.
   - Strengthened partnerships and a common vision for implementation of the urban agenda with key partners (whilst using various platforms like Rio+20, WUF, WUC, HABITAT III etc)
   - In order to proactively keep pace with the fast growing urbanisation trend, we need to double our project portfolio in the next 2-3 years;

2. Enhanced efficiency, productivity, transparency & accountability at the UN-HABITAT Secretariat level