

## Global Action Plan

### Way forward for implementing the Sustainable Development Goals and the New Urban Agenda transforming informal settlements and slums



#### A. The Background

Poverty and spatial inequality remain visible in cities and towns when assessing informality. 1.6 billion people are living in inadequate housing today, with a growing number of people living in slums marked by the most severe deprivation. COVID-19 was a wake-up call. It has demonstrated the level of vulnerabilities, inequalities, and lack of solutions to respond to inadequate living conditions and needs of the most vulnerable. The trend is alarming, with the number of people living in slums expected to rise from 1 billion to 3 billion by 2050, if no action is taken. Yet, limited resources and continued hesitance to invest in informal settlements and slums persist. The Decade of Action is calling for an accelerated implementation of the Sustainable Development Goals in informal settlements and slums.

#### B. The Global Action Plan Framework

The Slums and Informal Settlements Network responds to this global urgency. With a multiple partnership approach, it called for joining forces to act now to collectively establish a joint Global Action Plan that is politically endorsed and informs a broad stakeholder implementation framework towards scaling. The initiative comes at a strategic time of renewed commitments to the implementation of the New Urban Agenda, of the call for acceleration in the Decade of Action, the lessons learnt from the global pandemic as well as the recognition for the need to more inclusion and participatory sustainable urban development. The Global Action Plan will be directly linked to the New Urban Agenda Platform of UN-Habitat. It will follow the same spirit of Habitat III and further formalize and expand partnerships towards the implementation of the SDGs.

Key pillars of the Global Action Plan are 1) political mobilization and mainstreaming and 2) provision of sustainable and inclusive approaches towards slum transformation, enabled through strategic elements:

- Advocacy – Campaign on Global Actions with diverse stakeholder engagement
- Political endorsement by leading Ministers' and Mayors' network
- Indicator framework for measuring the progress made and monitoring of the implementation of the Global Action Plan globally, sub-regionally and at national levels
- Knowledge and capacity building platform with interactive presentation of the content of the global publication and reference to resources from different partners
- Policy dialogues, international conferences (every two years), Expert Group Meetings to deep dive on approaches and alignment of tools and technical support hubs
- Joint programming and implementation in six ficsixfisixcountries

For this, the following key documents are being developed:

- Global Action Plan (GAP) as global guideline on strategic key actions to be taken to reach a joint vision for transforming slums and informal settlements, endorsed through a resolution
- Global Publication (GP) "Solutions to Slum Challenges" as knowledge product to provide guidance on effective solutions and innovations to slum transformation
- Global Implementation Framework (GIF) with concrete actions and clear responsibilities as renewable accountability framework for enhanced transparency about achievements and impacts and challenges to collectively find solutions for facing the slum challenge.

#### C. Coordination of Partners

The GAP Framework provides a structured approach for diverse partners to contribute, engage and finance scaling and is being developed in an inclusive partnership model. It is a collective effort of the Slums and Informal Settlements Network (SiSnet) founded in 20168, as multiple partnership framework composed of powerful key actors that was enabled by long-term support of the Organization of the African, Caribbean and Pacific States (OACPS), the European Commission and the Government of South Africa. The Government of South Africa is championing the political leadership, embracing and inviting champion governments from all regions committed to go the next steps to integrating and transforming informal settlements and slums in a sustainable and inclusive manner, driving the same political mobilization processes in sub-regions. The partnership model is further built on core partners with international exposure and significant experience in addressing informality, urban poverty, inequalities and exclusion that are joining forces to contribute to the development of policies and practical approaches for inclusive transformation. UN-Habitat is coordinating the input from knowledge partners and international organizations like World Bank, UNICEF, Habitat for Humanity, Cities Alliance, Slum Dwellers International and the Huairou Commission in addition to the Organization of the African, Caribbean and Pacific States and the European Commission. Regional partners are contributing to contextualize, bring in concrete case studies, learning, trends, innovation, and adapted financing models. Thematic partners bring in detailed knowledge for specialized input to identified actions and opportunities to overcome challenges. Finance partners are invited to contribute to the coordination, knowledge and research, monitoring reporting for demonstration of impact in the implementation of the coordinated partnership approach.

#### D. Timeline of partner contributions towards implementing the GAP Framework

The structure and process of jointly shaping the future of slum transformation is outlined until 2030:

Milestones & Joint activities	Core partner contributing
November 2021 GAP Framework: Launch of Roadmap	OACPS/EC, UN-Habitat
June 2022 GAP Framework: Launch during World Urban Forum	OACPS/EC, UN-Habitat
February 2022 until March 2023 GP: Draft of Global Publication	OACPS/EC, SIDA, UN-Habitat
October 2022 GAP: International Launch with political endorsement of a communique	South Africa/OACPS/EC, UN-Habitat
November 2022 until June 2023 GAP/GIF: Campaign for engaging the GAP framework and establishing the Global Implementation Framework GIF	OACPS/EC/South Africa, UN-Habitat



### Milestones & Joint activities

### Core partner contributing

#### November 2022 until March 2023

GAP/GIF: Events for mobilizing sub-regional champions for engaging in the GAP and specifying key actions for the GIF

- 16 -18 November: Caribbean Sustainable Cities Conference
- 21 -23 November: Middle East and North Africa Housing Forum
- 07 - 09 December: India Land & Development Conference
- 15 February - 15 March: Regional forums in Sub-Saharan Africa, West Asia and North Africa, Central and South Asia, East and Southeast Asia and Oceania, Latin America and the Caribbean, in collaboration with UN-Habitat Regional Offices
- 01 - 30 April (tbc): Donor forum, hosted by Germany

South Africa/OACPS/EC, UN-Habitat, core partners

#### December 2022

GAP: Endorsement of resolution in presidential declaration during OACPS Summit in Rwanda

OACPS/EC/UN-Habitat

#### December 2022

GP: Presentation of deep dive questions to inform the implementation of the GAP

UN-Habitat

#### January 2023 until June 2030

GP: Establishment and expansion of regional knowledge hubs contextualizing global knowledge, tools, monitoring, innovations, and partnership models

UN-Habitat / core partners

#### April 2023

GP/GIF: Integration in the expanded existing specialized NUA platform

OACPS/EC

#### April 2022 until June 2029

GAP/GIF: National forums and campaigns on slum upgrading and informal settlements

UN-Habitat and core partners

#### April 2022 until June 2029

GIF: Sub-regional adaptation of Action Plans and strengthening of sub-regional knowledge hubs

UN-Habitat and core partners; as well as regional and thematic partners

#### June 2023 until June 2030

GP: Launch and joint commitment for continued documentation and updates on the shared platform

UN-Habitat and core partners; as well as regional and thematic partners

#### June 2023

GAP: Endorsement of resolution with key actions during UN-Habitat Assembly

OACPS/EC/UN-Habitat South Africa

#### July 2023

GIF: Launch during the High-Level Political Forum

South Africa and sub-regional champions

### Milestones & Joint activities

### Core partner contributing

#### June 2023 until June 2030

GAP/GIF: Continuous Global Advocacy and aligned partner Campaigns with thematic deep dives in relation to GAP and monitoring of GIF implementation

UN-Habitat and core partners; as well as regional and thematic partners

#### July 2023 until June 2030

GAP/GIF: Mainstreaming commitments in sub-regions Caribbean, Pacific, Africa (and sub-regions)

South Africa and sub-regional political champions

#### April 2023 until December 2029

GIF: Design of five country programmes with joint delivery of partners in line with the GIF in diverse regions

To be identified and confirmed

#### June 2024 until June 2030

GIF: Annual reporting on progress against the agreed indicators

UN-Habitat, political and technical partners