

## Directory of statistical services of international organisations

<b>Brief description of the organisation<sup>1</sup></b>	<p>The <b>United Nations Human Settlements Programme</b> was originally established as the United Nations Center for Human Settlements (UNHABITAT) by the General Assembly of the United Nations resolution 32/162 of 19 December 1977, and thereafter transformed into a subsidiary organ of the General Assembly of the United Nations by its resolution 56/206 of 21 December 2001, with Headquarters in Nairobi, Kenya (“UN-HABITAT”). UNHABITAT is the coordinating agency within the United Nations system for human settlements activities and focal point for the monitoring, evaluation and implementation of the Habitat Agenda, as well as the task manager of the human settlements chapter of Agenda 21 and responsible for promoting and consolidating collaboration with all partners, including local authorities and private and non-Governmental organizations in the implementation of the New Urban Agenda and the Urban related Sustainable Development Goals especially Goal 11 on Cities and Human Settlements. The Declaration on Cities and Other Human Settlement in the New Millennium as detailed in General assembly resolution S-25/2 reconfirmed the role of the United Nations Human Settlements Programme (UNHABITAT) in advocating, promoting, monitoring and assessing the progress made in implementing the goals of adequate shelter for all by providing legal security of tenure and sustainable human settlements development in all countries and in combining best practices, enabling policies, and compiling legislation and action plans for identifying illustrative cities for the two global campaigns and advancing further the normative debate and operational action on major human settlements issues, inter alia, by timely and regular publication of global flagship reports and timely release of urban related data. New Urban Agenda reaffirms the role and expertise of UN-Habitat, within its mandate, as a focal point for sustainable urbanization and human settlements and also acknowledges that in implementing the New Urban Agenda particular attention should be paid to addressing and coordinating within the UN system the unique and emerging urban development challenges facing all countries.</p>
<b>Mission<sup>2</sup></b>	<p>UN-HABITAT's vision aims at promoting stronger commitment of national and local governments as well as other relevant stakeholders to work towards the realization of a world with economically productive, socially inclusive and environmentally sustainable cities and other human settlements. UN-HABITAT's mission is in collaboration with relevant stakeholders and other United Nations entities, support governments and local authorities, in line with the principle of subsidiarity, to respond positively to the opportunities and challenges of urbanization by providing normative or policy advice and technical assistance on transforming cities and other human settlements into inclusive centres of vibrant economic growth, social progress and environmental safety. In light of the factors shaping the twenty-first century cities, and of the UN-Habitat current strengths, weaknesses, opportunities and threats the mission is anchored in a four-pillar strategy focusing on (a) urban legislation, land and governance; (b) urban planning and design; (c) urban economy; (d) urban basic services. These fall under the four core functions assigned to the agency by world governments - monitoring and research, policy development, capacity building and financing for housing and urban development. UN-HABITAT's programmes are designed to help policy-makers and local communities get to grips with the human settlements and urban issues and find workable lasting solutions. In April 2013, the Governing Council (GC) of UN-HABITAT approved the results-based Medium Term Strategic and Institutional Plan</p>

<sup>1</sup> Description of the statistics section/department in the organization

<sup>2</sup> Mission of the statistics section/department of the organization

	<p>(MTSIP) for 2014-2019. Within the framework of MTSIP, the Research and Capacity Development Branch (RCDB) shall support the Agency to develop an enhanced normative framework to package: a robust monitoring, advocacy and communications strategy to raise awareness and political commitment to address the challenges of rapid urbanization, urban poverty and slums. Furthermore, RCDB shall support the MTSIP anticipated outcome for UN-HABITAT to become a premier reference centre for data collection, analysis, monitoring and reporting on sustainable urbanization by 2019.</p>
<p><b>Fields of Activity/ structure</b></p> <p><i>Statistics</i></p>	<p>Fields of activity: The Organization and Global Urban Observatory unit (GUO) 's fields of activity have grown over the years to cover cities and human settlements in a way that allows an integrated approach to addressing rural-urban linkages.</p> <p>The GUO housed within the Research and Capacity Development Branch (RCDB) is the pioneer in the collection of urban indicators. In 1991, the unit initiated the Housing Indicators Programme, focusing on monitoring the performance of cities and countries in the delivery of shelter. In order to address urban issues on a greater scale, the Housing Indicators Programme evolved into the Urban Indicators Programme (UIP) in 1993. For the first phase of the programme (1993-2001), two main databases were produced: Global Urban Indicators Databases I and II, in 1996 and 2001, respectively. These were presented at the Habitat II and Istanbul +5 conferences. From 2002 to 2017, the Global Urban Observation unit has gone through a transformation in an effort to fulfill the requirements of new international mandates – such as Millennium Development Goals (MDGs) until 2015, and now the SDGs, Paris Agreement and the New Urban Agenda. As part of this transformation, the section revisited its existing Urban Indicators Programme and designed several new tools and monitoring approaches such as the Monitoring Urban Inequities Programme (MUIP), to better meet the monitoring and reporting needs of the organization, and the City Prosperity Index Measures designed to monitor and report on the global performance of cities in a more systematic and holistic way.</p> <p>In response to demands from data users, the unit rolled out the UrbanInfo software in 2004, a user-friendly tool that helps to store, present and analyze urban indicators through a variety of presentation tools, such as tables, graphs and maps prepared on the Windows platform. The first version of UrbanInfo was published in 2006, contains information on several topics, such as housing, demography, communication, energy, economy, education, health, nutrition and gender. A web-based database version was published in 2012 and provides updated information on these topics and more so covers new topics, such as disaster, crime, migration, income inequalities and transport. This version also includes data on all CPI dimensions such as City productivity, infrastructure, equity &amp; social inclusion, environment, quality of life, and legislation &amp; governance. In view of the preparation of the Habitat III Conference, The Global Urban Observatory unit worked with several partners and created a cohort of a sample of cities. This Global Sample of Cities (200 cities) has been used to study urban conditions and trends in the world's cities. The sample was drawn using a stratified sampling approach to cover both developed and developing regions. The use of this sample allows for regional and global monitoring of the implementation of the New Urban Agenda, and the city-related Sustainable Development Goals. Findings from this sample have already supplemented and augmented country reports and assisted in the preparation of global and regional aggregates.</p>
<p><b>Mandate</b></p>	<p>Towns and cities are growing today at unprecedented rates setting the social, political, cultural and environmental trends of the world, both good and bad. In 1950, one-third of the world's people lived in cities. Just 50 years later, this rose to one-half and will continue to grow to two-thirds, or 6 billion people, by 2050. <i>Cities are now home to half of humankind.</i> The United Nations Human Settlements Programme (UN-HABITAT), is the United Nations</p>

	<p>agency for human settlements. It is mandated by the UN General Assembly to promote socially and environmentally sustainable towns and cities with the goal of providing adequate shelter for all.</p> <p>The organization's mandate is outlined in the Vancouver Declaration on Human Settlements (1976), Habitat Agenda, Istanbul Declaration on Human Settlements (1996), the Declaration on Cities and Other Human Settlements in the New Millennium, and Resolution 56/206 (2000). The agency's mandate was further strengthened by two recent developments i.e 2016 Quito declaration on the New Urban Agenda and the 2015 Sustainable Development Goals.</p>
<b>Statistical work programme</b>	<p>Data collection and analysis is a collaborative effort between National Statistics Offices, Ministries responsible for urban issues, City and Metropolitan authorities and the Research community. The Global Urban Observatory statistical work programme for the period 2010-2019</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Produce data to monitor the Habitat Agenda , Millennium Development Goals ,and Sustainable Development Goals</li> <li>2. Produce data for the State of the World's Cities Report</li> <li>3. Produce data for the Global Report on Human Settlements</li> <li>4. Produce data for Global Report on The State of the World's Cities on Water and Sanitation</li> <li>5. Produce data for Regional Cities Report</li> <li>6. Conduct Urban Inequities Surveys</li> <li>7. Produce data for cities and citizens report as part of City Prosperity Initiative</li> <li>8. Support Local Urban Observatories</li> <li>9. Update the UrbanInfo database</li> <li>10. Support the GIS 1000 Cities Programme</li> <li>11. Monitor urban expansion forms in over 500 cities</li> <li>12. Organise Census Analysis regional workshops in Asia, Africa, Latin America and The Caribbean in order to produce city indicators</li> <li>13. Build capacities of National Statistical Systems to monitor and report on cities/urban related SDGs</li> </ol>
<b>Number of staff</b> <i>Total / Statistical division</i>	<p>The Research and Capacity Development Branch has 7 senior researchers overseeing the various statistical and urban research demands for the agency at the regional and global levels. In addition, there are 3 professional statisticians addressing the Global urban statistical demands at the HQ level.</p>
<b>Flagship Publications</b>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. The State of the World's Cities Report (SWCR)</li> <li>2. The Global Report on Human Settlements (GHR)</li> <li>3. The Global Report on The State of the World's Cities on Water and Sanitation</li> </ol>
<b>Website</b>	<a href="http://www.unhabitat.org">www.unhabitat.org</a>

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