

## HOUSING FOR ALL AS A MAJOR COMPONENT OF PARTICIPATORY SLUM UPGRADING

Due to inefficient policies and lack of affordable housing the proliferation of slums become recently the most urban challenge that the cities are facing.

Despite the progress made in slums improvement and in planning ahead for prevention, the absolute number of slum dwellers is growing - representing a huge deficit in the adequate housing provision. It is estimated that there are one billion slum dwellers worldwide and an additional 3 billion people will need adequate housing by 2050 as population increases dramatically within urban areas and people continue moving to cities. Inefficient housing policies, inappropriate or high building standards, the low financial capacity of households, the lack of available land and hence of affordable housing play a great role in slum growth. The access to durable housing is one of the five slum deprivations<sup>1</sup> and all the other deprivations are indirectly related to housing.

People living in slums are usually threatened by relocation, forced eviction and homelessness while the institutional and regulatory frameworks are not designed in a pro-poor manner to ensure access to affordable housing for all and hinder slum upgrading and prevention.

### The PSUP approach

UN Habitat's Participatory Slum Upgrading Programme (PSUP) prioritizes affordable housing, via slum upgrading, in an integrated manner considering:

*Policy and legislative frameworks to ensure housing for all and social inclusion:*

- PSUP's urban profiles, Country Teams, slum upgrading plans provide a lens through which countries and cities reflect on their policy, legislation and planning for affordable housing and urban prosperity;
- The PSUP promotes the development of pro poor/affordable housing policies;
- Promotion of housing programmes: accompanying housing and slum upgrading policies by national strategies with a detailed plan of action for ensuring proper time and resources provision.
- Continuous participatory and inclusive approach which facilitates the engagement of slum dwellers themselves but also the full range of stakeholders, especially at the institutional level.

*Ensuring housing affordability, habitability, durability and adequacy:*

- Promotion of incremental housing to leverage private's investment on housing;
- Integration of the private sector and practitioners (architects' and engineers' professional orders) in the Country Teams;
- Engaging local labor to increase affordability and generate livelihoods;
- Developing financing strategies and multi-stakeholder finance modules for housing in cooperation with the local community;
- PSUP promotes the preservation and improvement of traditional housing with indigenous building knowledge and techniques;

### Housing legality

- Focus on tenure regularization and promotion of different forms of tenure security with the recognition of the complete spectrum of continuum of land rights.

### Accessibility and location

- PSUP promotes in-situ, city-wide slum upgrading, which preserves important local social and economic capital (including livelihoods) via local planning and design and community managed funds. The approach also prioritizes the integration and inclusion of slum dwellers into the broader urban fabric via city-wide plans, institutional realignment;
- Ensuring adequate location of resettlement areas –when need be;
- Planning neighborhoods and their roads and infrastructure elaborately and participatory to decrease the distances to public services and utilities to create safer cities;

### Availability of services

- Developing and upgrading of infrastructure to ensure better access to service and facilities at household level.

### PSUP recommendations

- Consider housing in the city-wide framework for slum upgrading and prevention to ensure location and accessibility of housing for all.
- Use a pro-poor approach based on housing affordability through livelihood generation mechanisms and incremental housing.
- Ensure tenure and services provision as a catalytic investment to trigger personal progressive investments on housing.
- Involve the residents as key participants in the development process.

<sup>1</sup> According to the UN-Habitat definition, the five slum deprivations are (1) Access to improved water, (2) access to improved sanitation, (3) security of tenure, (4) durability of housing, (5) sufficient living area

## NAMIBIA

### Public housing programmes

Through the PSUP, the Country Team in Namibia could contribute to different government programmes (Mass Land Servicing and Mass Housing programmes) ensuring the consideration in their goals of the provision of housing in informal settlements. In 2015 the President of the Republic of Namibia launched a renovated campaign on poverty and constituted the Ministry of Poverty Eradication and Social Welfare as government mechanism to coordinate efforts in different sectors in addressing the indicators of poverty. Housing is one of the indicators of poverty in Namibia and UN-Habitat was requested to lead an analysis of urban housing access in Namibia as a first step towards the development of a national strategy to address this issue. The PSUP Country Team was involved in the analysis as the PSUP was identified as one of the key programmes to contribute in the development of the strategy. In November 2015, the PSUP was requested to support the revision of the draft of the Mass Housing Programme for exploring wider alternatives for financing and delivery of more affordable housing.

## KENYA.

### Community Managed Project for Stabilized Soil Blocks Manufacturing



Community members preparing SSB blocks @PSUP

In the frame of PSUP's community Managed Projects, a youth group in Majengo (Kilifi County, Kenya) submitted a proposal for the manufacturing of Stabilized Soil Blocks. With the support of the Department of Housing from Mombasa County, who had a similar programme with the Central government of Kenya PSUP provided technical training and one hydraulic block making machine to be used for the purpose. These blocks can be sold to the community of Majengo at lower rates than prevailing market rates improving housing while creating livelihoods generating activities for the community.

## BURKINA FASO.

### Training on plumbing for youth



Trainee receiving the plumbing kit @PSUP

With the training of young girls and boys of Bissighin in Burkina Faso in plumbing, the PSUP increased the possibility of connecting every household to the water supply network. Through the training, manpower for technical maintenance of the network has been made available in the community contributing to job creation and to an enhanced access to drinking water and sanitation at household level. At the end of the training, the girls and boys received complete installation kits which enabled them to be immediately operational to offer services to the populations of Bissighin and surrounding areas.

## IMPACT

Urban profiles done identifying housing as a priority;

Pro poor housing Policies adopted and National housing programmes for affordable housing promoted; Housing identified as priority for slum prevention in city wide slum upgrading and in National strategies;

Community projects to ensure access to adequate housing materials

More than 800,000 slum dwellers being provided with secure tenure in 9 countries (Burkina Faso, Cameroon, DR. Congo, Ghana, Kenya, Malawi, Mozambique, Niger and Senegal).

67,600 slum households targeted for improved housing conditions through physical works concerning water and sanitation, improved durability of constructions as well as public space and access roads

INCLUSIVE SLUM UPGRADING

FOR A BETTER URBAN FUTURE

UN HABITAT