

PARTICIPATORY SLUM UPGRADING PROGRAMME (PSUP)

A slum is a deprived urban area, often not recognised and addressed as an integral or equal part of cities and towns, where the inhabitants have inadequate housing and basic services. A slum household is a group of individuals living under the same roof that lack one or more of the following conditions: access to improved water; improved sanitation; durable housing; adequate living space; and security of tenure.

Participatory Slum Upgrading – is an approach that aims to address uneven and unequal urban development represented by slums. It engages and puts key urban stakeholders and concerned communities at the heart of the effort to improve the lives of slum dwellers, and leverages partnerships, governance arrangements, institutional structures and financing options to ensure inclusive planning and sustainable outcomes.

Slum dwellers, in particular, have important knowledge, skills and capacity to contribute, direct and own the upgrading process. An inclusive approach towards the improvement of their living conditions brings the necessary mind-set change, institutional and planning linkages that facilitate the integration of slums, thus fostering fundamental changes towards a sustainable urbanization for all.

THE CHALLENGE

- Rapid urbanization in developing countries combined with poverty, the demand for cheap labour and vested interests in land and housing markets - has posed serious challenges to governments and their responsibilities in ensuring the right of their citizens to adequate housing and standards of living.
- In spite of great progress – the proportion of urban population living in slums decreased from 39% to 30% between 2000 and 2014 – the absolute number continues to grow.

- There are close to one billion slum dwellers in the world; nearly one in every eight people on the planet.
- Slums are a challenge to human rights and sustainable development. Economic and social progress is slowed down, health risks increased and security threatened in urban settlements by high unemployment and social tensions.

UN-HABITAT'S APPROACH

UN-Habitat's Participatory Slum Upgrading Programme (PSUP), a joint initiative with the ACP Secretariat and the European Commission, provides tools to improve the lives of slum dwellers and to prevent the proliferation of new ones.

The PSUP programme applies five strategic and integrated interventions:

1. Improved knowledge and evidence on slums and slum dwellers to inform policies, planning and strategic interventions.
2. Improved urban governance and slum upgrading management structures that deliver urban plans and tangible services to all within an inclusive and transparent framework.
3. Participatory urban planning and design that guides safe, resilient and sustainable urban growth and renewal.
4. Equipping national and local authorities as well as slum dwellers with strategic partnership and financing strategies.
5. Implementing incremental participatory slum upgrading interventions.

Reflecting the call of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development to end poverty and the specific Goal 11 to make cities and human settlements inclusive, safe, resilient and sustainable by upgrading slums (Target 11.1), PSUP represents an approach to deliver many of the objectives of the SDGs, as well as to fulfill the 'housing at the centre' idea contained in the proposed New Urban Agenda.

PSUP TRANSFORMING THE LIVES OF ONE BILLION SLUM DWELLERS

A methodological approach that aims to address the urban development imbalance apparent in slums.

2030

The year by which PSUP aims to reduce by 50% the number of slum dwellers in 2,000 cities and towns worldwide

9%

The percentage decrease in the proportion of urban population living in slums between 2000 and 2014, however, the absolute number continues to grow.

IMPACT

- Since its inception in 2008, PSUP has reached out to 10.45 million people living in 39 ACP countries and 190 cities, providing the necessary enabling framework for improving the lives of at least **2 million slum dwellers**.
- 35 National Urban Policy frameworks have been approved in 35 countries.
- 10% of PSUP funds were dedicated to community economic empowerment.
- Community Managed funds resulted in improved living conditions for 268,000 people.

INCLUSIVE SLUM UPGRADING

FOR A BETTER URBAN FUTURE

UN HABITAT