



United Nations Human Settlements Programme (UN-Habitat)



Urban Tehran

Vision

Over half of the world's population now lives in cities. Approximately 90% of urban growth takes place in developing countries. These trends, coupled with recent global economic turmoil, growing poverty, and the rising consequences of climate change, reinforced the need for strategic approaches to human settlement planning.

UN-Habitat envisions well-planned, well-governed, and efficient cities and other human settlements, with adequate housing, infrastructure, and universal access to

employment and basic services such as water, energy, and sanitation. In order to achieve these goals, and derived from the Habitat Agenda of 1996, UN-Habitat has set itself a medium-term strategy approach for each successive six-year period. The current strategic plan spans from 2014 to 2019.

The plan outlines seven focus areas:

- Urban legislation, land, and governance.
- Urban planning and design.
- Urban economy.
- Urban basic services.
- Housing and slum upgrading.
- Risk reduction and rehabilitation.
- Research and capacity development.

Work in Iran

From 2009, UN-Habitat has been working on Disaster Risk Reduction, particularly the risks associated with seismic hazards.

From 2014, the focus from a thematic aspect has turned to promoting and advocating the overall mandate and work programme of UN-Habitat, as described above.

UN-Habitat works closely with the National Habitat Committee (NHC), established under the auspices of the Ministry of Roads and Urban Development (MoRUD) and headed by the Deputy Minister and Housing Organisation (NLHO), whose mandate is to promote and ensure implementation of the Habitat Agenda at the national level as well as policies for sustainable urban



Seismic retrofitting of a school building, Tehran.

development. The NHC is composed of all pertinent Government ministries and

departments engaged in human settlements and urban development.

Currently UN-Habitat Tehran office and National Habitat Committee are working on a programme tuned to priorities of the Government in the field of human settlement and urban development. Particular attention is being paid to the national policies and programmes in the housing sector and informal settlements upgrading, urban planning and design, urban basic services, bilateral technical collaboration and seismic risk reduction.