UN-Habitat Contribution for the Report on "Human Rights of Migrants"

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International migrants are increasingly moving to cities because of the socio-economic opportunities they offer and the strong diasporic social networks that exist within them. Cities also benefit from the arrival of newcomers as they bring new skills and knowledge and make urban areas more culturally vibrant and diverse, as well as increasing city revenue. However, in contexts where local governments are not engaging, or don't have the necessary (human, institutional or financial) capacity for providing solutions for such flows, due to various reasons, the large influx of people can pose major challenges with regard to the provision of housing and other public services, with direct socio-economic consequences to local governments. In these situations, migrants are often the first to be excluded.

UN-Habitat works to improve the capacity of local governments to provide equal access to rights and basic services for all, including migrants and refugees; other areas of work regarding the protection of rights for migrants, refugees, IDPs and returnees include inclusive urban policy development, housing, land and property rights, inclusive urban and territorial planning and urban governance processes.

UN-Habitat, among other projects, has partnered with ICMPD and UCLG on the Mediterranean City-to-City Migration (MC2CM) project, to enhance multilevel governance mechanisms and strengthen dialogue between spheres of government. The project contributes to improved, rights-based migration, with a specific focus on integration and inclusion. MC2CM brings together experts and cities to contribute to improved migration governance at city level, including migrants' access to basic services and human rights, and has brought migration to the forefront of respective cities that, until recently, had limited experience in local governance of migration. In the first phase of MC2CM, the participating cities, Amman, Beirut, Lisbon, Lyon, Madrid, Tangier, Tunis, Turin and Vienna established an open dialogue, developed and exchanged knowledge and developed local projects to increase the knowledge base on urban migration and nurture a peer-to-peer dialogue to support mutual learning on specific urban challenges such as social cohesion, intercultural dialogue, employment and provision of basic services for migrants, among others. The project focuses on **Dialogue** through Peer-to-Peer Meetings on specific themes related to challenges faced in each city; **Knowledge** through development of City Migration Profiles that set out data and information on the local migration context in partner cities as well as future priorities to address; and **Action** through transfer of migration governance and city planning strategies, establishment of city expert networks and development of pilot projects implemented in the participating Southern Mediterranean cities. In Phase One, the outcomes include 7 peer-to-peer exchanges, 4 pilot projects, 9 city migration profiles, and involved more than 100 local stakeholders. In continuing Phase Two, 5 new cities: Rabat, Casablanca, Oujda, Sousse and Sfax were selected and are commencing their City Migration Profiles to build a knowledge base.

Moreover, refugees and IDPs' housing rights are often denied and they are disproportionately affected by forced evictions. UN-Habitat promotes the right to adequate housing for all, including refugees, IDPs and migrants, regardless of migration status. Through the United

Nations Housing Rights Program (UNHRP), UN-Habitat has supported the implementation of a Human Rights-Based Approach to IDP resettlements in Iraq and Syria, as well as advised on the eviction and resettlement projects in several countries. Apart from technical assistance, UNHRP has developed normative tools to guide the implementation of the right to adequate housing, such as *alternative solutions to forced evictions and slum demolitions*, and an advocacy video on the prevention of forced evictions. In countries such as Ethiopia, Somalia and Afghanistan, UN-Habitat contributes to developing sustainable solutions for IDPs and returnees in urban areas.

The agency's work on housing, land and property rights within the Global Land Tenure Network (GLTN) addresses the challenges of vulnerable migrants, refugees and IDPs to access to houses and land with tools and knowledge management products on land administration; pro poor land registration, land taxation, land tenure responsive land use planning, and is addressing the land-related aspects of conflicts between 'people on the move' and host communities including land mediation work, land registration work and root cause analysis of land and conflict for peacebuilding in countries such as Sudan (Dafur), Iraq, Democratic Republic of Congo (DRC) and Somalia.

UN-Habitat, in collaboration with UNHCR and other agencies developed the Kalobeyei Integrated Social and Economic Development Programme (KISEDP), a long-term, 14-year project (2016-2030). The Kalobeyei settlement is to be developed as an urban center, using the same development and planning techniques used by developers for cities and some of the key characteristics are sustainable as well as non-discriminatory urban and agricultural/livestock development for the host community and refugees (estimated population of 60,000). The project aims at supporting a human-rights based approach reducing possible conflicts and between host community and refugees by providing the same level of services to the two communities and by promoting their physical, social and economic integration. KISEDP also aims to ensure security of tenure for the above occupants (both refugees and host community) so as to ensure their right to land and housing and avoid arbitrary evictions. Lastly, KISEDP intends to lay the ground for a physical, economic and governance structure that could evolve overtime and ensure the long-term sustainability of the refugee settlements.