

United Nations Human Settlements Programme (UN-Habitat)

Statements of Commitment to the Global Alliance Against Hunger and Poverty

General section

1. UN-Habitat hereby voluntarily *joins the Global Alliance Against Hunger and Poverty* and states its dedication to pursue the Alliance's mission, objectives and principles, as *expressed* in the Global Alliance's Terms of Reference and Governance Framework, and to collaborate with other members to achieve lasting solutions to poverty and hunger worldwide, as expressed below.

UN-Habitat

2. *Recognizes* that hunger and malnutrition are the perverse manifestations of persistent, structural poverty and inequality, and recognizes the need to end poverty and hunger in all their forms and dimensions and to fully and effectively implement the 2030 Agenda.
3. *Acknowledges* the alarming growth in the number of people facing food insecurity and poverty in recent years, noting that, despite all significant past and current efforts, the world is not on track to meet SDG 1 and 2 targets, inequality is also on the rise (SDG 10), and a significant increase in collective ambition, as well as improvement in collective alignment and coordination for the fight against hunger and poverty, is urgently needed.
4. To that effect, *endorses* the Global Alliance Against Hunger and Poverty and its mission *to support and accelerate efforts to eradicate hunger and poverty (SDGs 1 and 2) while reducing inequalities (SDG 10), contributing to revitalize global partnerships for sustainable development (SDG 17) and to the achievement of other interlinked SDGs, and championing sustainable, inclusive and just transitions..*
5. *Notes* that it is crucial for the world to unite behind large-scale, integrated approaches combining international, regional, national, and local levels, that recognize the interconnected nature of challenges and solutions to hunger and poverty and pair social protection with access to goods and services that can help the poor and vulnerable populations to overcome structural barriers and drive responsible investment in their productive capacity. These complementary services include but are not limited to interventions for poverty reduction, food security and nutrition, early childhood support, education and skills development, employment services, health and care services, as well as family farmers and smallholders' access to finance, extension services, research and/or agricultural inputs, in line with international commitments and obligations.
6. *Particularly recognizes* the high value and positive impact of quality implementation of national and local country-owned, inclusive policy instruments and programmes, fo-

cused on the poorest and most vulnerable, in the fields of poverty reduction, social protection, food security and nutrition, gender equality, decent work in the agri-food sector, skills development, family farming and smallholder agriculture, food systems transformation, health and care services and resilience building.

7. Also *acknowledges* the Global Alliance's reference basket of such policies as a collectively built, ongoing collection of examples with robust evidence to reduce hunger and poverty, and as a useful basis to guide joint action and increase alignment of the international community at country level. This acknowledgement is applicable to the policy basket approach as a general guide to action and does not imply endorsement of any specific policy instrument or programme contained in the basket.
8. Therefore, by joining the Global Alliance Against Hunger and Poverty, *commits* to do its best efforts, in its own field of action, and according to its own mandate, capacities, priorities, preferences, procedures, and legal arrangements and framework, to support the implementation of policy instruments and programmes at country level as appropriate, including by the promotion of shared learning and the mobilization of resources, public and private, at scale.

In particular:

Knowledge support commitments

UN-Habitat:

Commits to make its best efforts to co-create and provide technical assistance, capacity building and strengthening, training and/or knowledge-sharing on voluntary and mutually agreed terms in response to requests by Global Alliance member countries that choose to implement policy instruments and programmes in the Alliance's policy basket that are compatible with its areas of expertise.

Commits to make its best efforts to improve the alignment of its actions, including through the Global Alliance's coordination mechanisms, leveraging, and partnering with other actors to better support large scale, country-owned implementation of policies and programmes in the reference basket by Global Alliance member countries, aiming at enhancing country-level outcomes.

Commits to collaborate with other Alliance members to develop innovative solutions and share good practices in learning and knowledge exchange and dissemination on voluntary and mutually agreed terms, data collection and analysis, including by leveraging existing local, national, and international knowledge networks, coalitions, communities and other fora related to aspects relevant to the fight against hunger and poverty.

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Informs its capacity and readiness to support Alliance member governments in implementing, improving or scaling-up the following policy instrument types, referenced in the Global Alliance's basket of policy instruments:
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UN-Habitat can provide technical assistance, knowledge development and sharing platforms, and capacity-building initiatives, helping to create integrated, resilient, and
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sustainable urban development. Each of the selected policy area aligns with UN-Habitat's overall goals of promoting sustainable urbanization for a better future.

School Meals Programs: These initiatives contribute to improving food security and nutrition, aligning with UN-Habitat's goals of promoting equitable access to services and reducing inequalities in urban and rural areas. School meals programs can create direct urban-rural economic linkages by sourcing food locally from rural smallholders for urban schools. These initiatives also support education, which is essential for sustainable development.

Support to Livelihood Diversification: UN-Habitat emphasizes the importance of economic inclusion and the need to empower vulnerable populations, particularly in rural areas in domain of change (DoC) 1 and 2 of the strategic plan 2020-2025. Livelihood diversification ensures that rural populations can generate income through various avenues beyond agriculture, such as eco-tourism, artisanal crafts, and small-scale processing while strengthening urban-rural partnerships.

Access to Basic Services:

- **Drinking Water and Sanitation Services, and Hygiene Facilities:** Access to clean water and sanitation is a fundamental human right and a key component of sustainable urban development. UN-Habitat advocates for universal access to these services as part of the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs).

- **Clean Fuels and Technology:** Promoting clean energy technologies aligns with UN-Habitat's commitment to sustainable energy solutions, aiming to reduce environmental impact and improve health outcomes.

- **Adequate Housing:** UN-Habitat's focus on affordable and adequate housing directly supports this access, as housing is a critical aspect of urban development. Similarly, ensuring that rural and peri-urban areas have access to safe, affordable housing reduces migration to overcrowded urban centers and promotes balanced urban-rural growth.

- **Access to Mobility and Transport, Information Services, and Infrastructure Development:** Improved mobility and infrastructure—such as transportation networks, digital access, and essential services—enhances connectivity between urban and rural areas, supporting economic integration and reducing inequalities (DoC 1). UN-Habitat supports integrated infrastructure planning that enhances connectivity between urban and rural areas, fostering sustainable territorial development.

Support to Smallholder Farmers:

- **Inclusive Market Infrastructure Development:** UN-Habitat's work focuses on developing inclusive infrastructure that then allows smallholder farmers to access urban markets, improving their livelihoods. Developing market systems that benefit both urban consumers and rural producers aligns with UN-Habitat's goal of promoting sustainable development across the human settlements.

Promoting Short Value Chains: UN-Habitat work contributes to support for the creation of short value chains to reduce the environmental and economic costs of food

distribution. This approach includes support to urban and peri-urban agriculture, urban infrastructure to support bulk food storage among others. This thus supports urban and rural farmers as well as urban consumers, fostering resilience and sustainability in urban-rural relationships.

Integrated Programs for Climate and Shock Resilience: UN-Habitat's initiatives on urban resilience focus on enhancing the capacity of communities to withstand climate change and other shocks. Integrated programs that address both rural and urban vulnerabilities help communities adapt to climate impacts, whether through anticipatory planning, adaptive social protection, or community-based resilience initiatives. This aligns with sustainable development practices that aim to protect vulnerable populations in all geographical locations.

General acknowledgments

Recognizes the possibility to, including through the mechanisms available to Global Alliance members, coordinate, partner with and/or seek support from the Global Alliance's other members, within their respective capacities, availability, and fields of activity, to carry out the present commitments with greater effectiveness.

While recognizing that the above commitments are voluntary and non-legally binding, being subject to and carried out under its own capacities, regulations, priorities, and modalities, as well as to the availability of appropriate resourcing, *strives* to seriously consider, as appropriate, and according to its own legal frameworks and governance process, to review its procedures and priorities as found necessary to better deliver on the present commitments, enhance synergies and joint efforts with other entities and initiatives, and improve outcomes on the collective fight against hunger and poverty.