

Webinar on New Urban Agenda Reporting

Keynote Remarks

Webinar SUMMARY



Webinar Title

Monitoring the Transformative Commitments and the Means of Implementation of the New Urban Agenda

Keynote Remarks

Keynote Speaker

Speaker: Edlam Abera Yemeru

• Title: Director (a.i), External Relations, Strategy, Knowledge and Innovation, UN-Habitat HQ

Speech outline

Dear Participants,

Greetings from UN-Habitat in Nairobi, Kenya and welcome to this moderated webinar on "Monitoring the Transformative Commitments of the New Urban Agenda (NUA)".

This webinar is a part of unique learning series on including an e-learning course in UN-Habitat Learn.

My name is Edlam Abera Yemeru and I am the Director (a.i.) of External Relations, Strategy, Knowledge and Innovation Division.

In 2026, the New Urban Agenda was adopted at the third United Nations Conference on Housing and Sustainable Urban Development, in Quito, Ecuador.

The Agenda serves as the implementation framework of the urban component of all the Sustainable Development Goals.

It provides a global framework to promote both well-planned and well-managed urban development, which is particularly instrumental in realizing SDG 11 on Sustainable Cities and Communities but also to advance broader goals such as poverty alleviation, environmental protection, and economic prosperity.

Indeed, the New Urban Agenda highlights linkages between sustainable urbanization and job creation, livelihood opportunities and improved quality of life, and it calls on all of us to incorporate these aspects within every urban development, renewal policy and strategy.

Next year, 2026, is a major milestone for the New Urban Agenda.

It is the mid-point review 10 years after the adoption of the agenda and with ten years remaining to 2036.

Also, in 2026, the UN Secretary General will be presenting his Quadrennial review of progress with the New Urban Agenda to the UN General Assembly.

In addition, the UN General Assembly has decided to hold a high-level meeting of the General Assembly on the midterm review of the New Urban Agenda, to be held in New York for a duration of two days at the highest possible level following, or preceding, the 2026 high -level political forum on sustainable development.

This high-level meeting will assess progress on integrating the New Urban Agenda into policies, programmes and investments at all levels, identify good practices, gaps and challenges and accelerate the path to achieving the goal of the New Urban Agenda by 2036.

The UN GA therefore invited States and local and regional governments to assess progress, gaps and challenges in the implementation of the New Urban Agenda at the local, national, regional and global levels, to share findings, good practices and recommendations with UN-Habitat, to be included in a report on the midterm review.

In this context, this learning series on "Monitoring the Transformative Commitments of the New Urban Agenda (NUA)" represents a step forward in advancing and monitoring progress in achieving the New Urban Agenda.

This webinar is designed to provide detailed guidance on how to process reporting on the New Urban Agenda.

Our final goal for our learning series is to bring together a network of champions, made of passionate advocates committed to implementing, monitoring, and reporting on the New Urban Agenda.

Thank you for being a part of this groundbreaking initiative and I look forward to your active participation throughout the whole webinar and further!

Let's embark on this learning journey together to build an inclusive, safe, resilient and sustainable urban future for everyone!