

Nairobi, 27 June 2023

Dear Sir/Madam,

**Re: Invitation to participate in a global peer-to-peer review and learning process in implementing the UN systemwide Guidelines on Safer Cities and Human Settlements – co-creating neighborhoods and public spaces for everyone.**

We are pleased to invite you to a peer-to-peer learning process amongst cities and their civil society partners in implementing the UN systemwide Guidelines on Safer Cities and Human Settlements, leading to the presentation and discussion of results at the Twelfth session of the World Urban Forum (WUF12) to be held on 4 - 8 November 2024 in Cairo, Egypt.

The World Urban Forum is a non-legislative technical Forum, convened by the United Nations Human Settlements Programme (UN-Habitat) since 2002. It is recognized as the foremost global arena in the field of sustainable urban development and human settlements. WUF12 will be co-organized with the Government of Egypt.

WUF12 is a strategic opportunity for multi-stakeholder cooperation in the implementation of the New Urban Agenda and the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), especially SDG11 to “Make cities and human settlements inclusive, safe, resilient and sustainable”. The Forum draws participation of local and national leaders, government officials, civil society, academia, private sector, grassroots and other policy and decision makers from around the world.

While the main theme of WUF12 is still under discussion, Habitat Norway and UN-Habitat are positioning inputs into the agenda from a perspective of safer cities and human security drawing on innovative practices that demonstrate neighbourhoods and public spaces for everyone, and with particular attention to young people and gender. We are reaching out to cities globally, believing that we have a lot in common and a lot to learn from each other’s particular urban experiences.

Cities participation in the peer-to-peer review and learning process will only require doing the following:

- 1) Identify a technical focal point to be engaged in the process.
- 2) Identify a civil society actor in the city that brings along the participation and voices of young people and gender; and their promising practices in cocreating safe and livable neighborhoods and public spaces for everyone.
- 3) Make available the city focal point and civil society actor to participate in 4/5 two-hour long webinars, held every two months, in the month of October 2023, December 2023, February 2024, and April 2024. Thereafter, a final webinar in October 2024, ahead of the World Urban Forum.
- 4) Provide a brief city case study on safer cities and human security by cocreating livable neighborhoods and public spaces for everyone.


- 5) Be available and participate on behalf of the city in a panel presentation of the case studies at the Twelfth session of the World Urban Forum.
- 6) Contribute with a written input to the peer review report (summing up).

It is an honor and privilege to invite you to participate in the peer to peer learning process as a focal point. We believe that your expertise is unparalleled and will be of great benefit to the learning process and its participants. The working language is in English.

We would appreciate knowing if you are available to join us in this peer to peer learning process and would be grateful if you could complete the attached acceptance form and send back by **1<sup>st</sup> August 2023**. Kindly contact Kjersti Grut, Lars Stordal, or Diana Huynh at Habitat Norway ([habitatnorway@gmail.com](mailto:habitatnorway@gmail.com)) and Juma Assiango at UN-Habitat ([juma.assiango@un.org](mailto:juma.assiango@un.org)) to provide you with any further information you may require.

We look forward to a positive confirmation.

Yours sincerely,



Peter Butenschøn  
Chair  
Habitat Norway



Raf Tuts  
Director, Global Solutions Division  
UN-Habitat