



Habitat International Coalition

HIC Annual Report 2017

Global network for habitat rights and social justice



Housing and Land Rights



Gender Equality



Right to the City



Social Production of Habitat



Contents

02 Message from the President

03 The Coalition

03 HIC in the World

04 HIC's Members per region and country

07 Welcome to our new Members 2017

08 HIC Global Data

09 HIC Faces

10 HIC Remembers

10 Kuria Gathuru

11 Nick Volk

12 Sibonelo Patrick Mpeku

12 Mario Vásquez

13 Edin Martínez

14 HIC Structures' Reports

14 HIC Presidency

15 HIC General Secretariat

16 HIC in Latin America and the Caribbean

17 HIC in South Asia

19 HIC in Sub-Saharan Africa

20 HIC in Europe

22 HIC in the Middle East and North Africa

23 HIC Housing and Land Rights Network

26 Global Activities

26 HIC and the Habitat Conferences 1976-2016

27 HIC and the Global Platform for the Right to the City

28 HIC Human Rights Habitat Observatory

28 World Day for the Right to the City: 'Stop Forced Evictions' Global Campaign

29 Utopias under construction. Latin American experiences of social production of habitat

30 HIC HLRN Violations Database

31 HIC Africa Board Members Elections

31 HIC North America Members Elections

32 HIC Allies

37 HIC Financial Statement 2017

37 Contact details



Message from the President

The global political context is changing very quickly with very concerning trends of an alarming increase of explicit misogyny, racism, discrimination, xenophobia and authoritarian discourses and practices in many parts of the world. At the same time, the growing socio-economic inequality faced by our societies continues to be clearly visible while the spatial segregation is playing a key role in deepening the vicious circle of impoverishment and exclusion that is affecting at least a third of the world's population. Violations to land and housing rights and the right to the city as well as the criminalization of activists and human rights defenders are daily challenges for HIC Members and Allies both in rural and urban areas, in the South and in the North. How to better connect our struggles with wider movements for social justice and democracy?

On the other hand the global agendas and commitments made by national governments and international institutions in recent years are not strong enough or suffer from lack of coherence and/or substantial omissions, such as a consistent human rights framework. The fundamental role of civil society organizations and local governments and their right to participate at the decision making as well as the implementation and follow-up processes is not only not fully recognized but usually made very difficult if not impossible, while favouring a protagonistic role of the private sector and the corporate actors. How to strategically engage on these scenarios and with -or in front of- those different actors?

This annual report presents the work of HIC during 2017 in defense of human dignity, social justice, equity, diversity, solidarity and peace. HIC Members and Allies are actively involved in this task in all continents. Particularly relevant are our efforts to advance in social mobilization and public policies to promote the security of tenure and a wide range of alternatives to guarantee the right to housing, including public provision, social renting, cooperatives, community land trusts and other collective forms; the recognition and support of processes of social production, re-construction and collective management of habitat; and the social function of property, the right to the city and the creation of adequate and violence-free housing and public spaces for women, girls and other groups groups requiring priority attention. There are some good examples and success stories to share, but also concerning setbacks that we need to confront.

Fraternally,



Lorena Zárate

HIC President



The Coalition

Habitat International Coalition (HIC) is the global network dedicated to action for the recognition, defense and full implementation of the right of everyone to a secure place in which to live in peace and dignity, in all countries.

Specifically, HIC acts as an international collective of civil society organizations, social movements and individuals that mobilizes and advocates in defense, promotion and enforceability of the human rights of homeless, evicted, displaced, landless and inadequately housed people and communities, including those under occupation, in urban and rural areas. HIC seeks to empower people and communities to improve their living conditions based on the principles, norms and standards of human rights, diversity, gender equality, social production and environmental sustainability. HIC promotes public awareness about habitat issues and serves as a platform for the formulation of programs, policies and strategies for constituent social movements and civil society organizations working to promote the human rights to housing, land, and the city, and acts as their representative to public, National, regional and international bodies and forums.

The Association aims to attain these objectives by means of:

- (a) Mobilizing and advocating, independently or in co-operation, with other civil society entities, grassroots and popular organizations, social movements, independent institutions, academic networks, and activist platforms;
- (b) Organizing forums, seminars and conferences, lectures, public hearings, and exchange visits;
- (c) Publishing statements, reports, newsletters, and other studies and informative materials;
- (d) Conducting research and fact-finding missions to document human rights related to Habitat violations and positive experiences;
- (e) Supporting and strengthening networks and promoting information exchanges among its members and other civil society entities;
- (f) Conducting training, human rights education and other activities to build capabilities of constituent members and affiliates; and
- (g) Any other activities compatible with these objectives.

HIC in the World

The Coalition has 350 Members (of which 40 have the right to vote) and 69 Friends. In addition 1,753 organizations and individuals form the HIC Social Base. The figures below presents the geographic distribution of HIC Members, Friends and the Social Base:

HIC in the World (total)

350 Members, **69** Friends, **40** Members with right to vote, **1753** Social Base in the world

Africa

71 Members, **7** Friends, **14** Members with right to vote and **160** Social Base

Asia And Oceania

37 Members, **11** Friends, **2** Members with right to vote and **208** Social Base

Europe

59 Members, **13** Friends, **4** Members with right to vote and **430** Social Base

Latin America and the Caribbean

116 Members, **23** Friends, **17** Members with right to vote and **663** Social Base

Middle East / North Africa

37 Members, **4** Friends, **145** Social Base

North America

30 Members, **11** Friends, **3** with right to vote and **147** Social Base

HIC's Members per region and country

Africa / 71

Angola

Development Workshop - Angola

Benin

ONG BETHESDA/Département
Développement Communautaire et
Assainissement du Milieu

Botswana

Cooperation for Research, Development
and Education

Burkina Faso

Centre Régional pour l'Eau Potable et
l'Assainissement
Coalition Nationale pour l'Habitat

Cameroon

Association des Amoureux du Livre ASSOAL
pour le Développement
Coalition des ONG et OCB du Cameroun
Œuvrant dans le Domaine des
Établissements Humains
Collectif Interafricain des Habitants
Comité de Développement Intégré de
Kouabang - Gamougoum
Comité Diocésain des Activités Sociales et
Caritas de l'Archidiocèse de Douala
Fondation des Femmes Actives Pour la
Promotion de L'Education de la Femme et
de l'Enfant
Réseau National des Habitants du
Cameroun

D.R. Congo

Association d'appui aux conducteurs de
chariots du Congo
Coalition des Organisations de la Société
Civile pour le Suivi des Réformes et de
l'Action Publique

R. Congo

Groupe d'Action pour le Droit

Ethiopia

Integrated Holistic Approach Urban
Development Programme

Guinee

Acteurs Pour Habitat

Ivory Coast

Action Internationale de Développement
Intégral
Femmes Côte d'Ivoire Expérience

Kenya

Association for the Physically Disabled of
Kenya
Dajopen Waste Management Project
Eastern Africa Coalition on Economic,
Social and Cultural Rights
Kituo Cha Sheria (Legal Advice Centre)
Mazingira Institute
National Cooperative Housing Union Ltd
Pamoja Trust
Young Muslim Association

Mali

Asia and Oceania / 37

Australia

Australian Council of Social Service

Azerbaijan

Azerbaijan Women and Development
Centre

Bangladesh

Dustha Shasthya Kendra
Shelter for the Poor

Hong Kong

Society for Community Organization

India

ActionAid India/Citizens' Rights Collective
Ahmedabad Study Action Group
Association for Voluntary Action and
Services
Christian Institute for the Study of Religion
and Society
Community Development Information and
Action Group
Development Alternatives
Grameena Empowerment Mission Society
Institute for Development Education &
Action
Karnataka Kolageri Nivasigala Samyuktha
Punjab Action Group for Rural
Development
Sathi All for Partnerships
Women's Voice
Youth for Unity and Voluntary Action

Indonesia

Center of Housing and Human Settlements,
Dep. of Architecture, Petra Christian
University
Ikatan Arsitek Indonesia
Urban Poor Consortium

Malaysia

Eaford - Pam Centre

Pakistan

Orangi Pilot Project, Research and Training
Institute
Sewa Development Trust Sindh

Philippines

Alternative Planning Initiatives Inc.
Billierbeck Architekten
Center for Housing and Human Ecology
Development Foundation, Inc.
Dedicated Involvement of Women for
Housing Actions
Freedom to Build Inc
Kongress NG Pagkakaisa NG MGA
Leaders and Organizers of Community
Organisation in Asia
Marian Housing Foundation
Pagtambayayong Foundation for Mutual
Aid
Urban Poor Associates

Papua New Guinea

National Committee for Urban Shelter -
Department of Architecture

Latin America and the Caribbean / 116

Argentina

Asociación Civil Canoa
Asociación Civil Madre Tierra
Asociación Civil Nueva Democracia por la
Vivienda, Salud y Educación de los
Humildes
Asociación Civil por la Igualdad y la
Justicia
Asociación de la Vivienda Económica -
Centro Experimental de la Vivienda
Económica
Centro de Comunicación Popular y
Asesoramiento Legal
Centro de Estudios Urbanos y Regionales
(Centro de Estudios Avanzados de la
Universidad de Buenos Aires
Centro de Estudios y Acción por la
Igualdad
Centro de Intercambio Subregional Cono
Sur - Argentina
Centro Interdisciplinario de Estudios
Territoriales
El Ceibo T.B (Red Hábitat Argentina)
Federación de Villas, Núcleos y Barrios de
la Ciudad de Buenos Aires
Federación Tierra y Vivienda
Fundación Vivienda y Comunidad
Grupo de Investigación Vivienda Social y
Ciudad - FADU UNL
Instituto de Investigación y Desarrollo en
Vivienda-Instituto para la Comunidad y el
Hábitat
Instituto Internacional de Medio Ambiente
y Desarrollo
Movimiento de Ocupantes e Inquilinos
Observatorio del Derecho a la Vivienda
Proyecto Habitar
Secretariado de Enlace de Comunidades
Autogestionarios
Servicio en Promoción Humana
Servicio Habitacional y de Acción Social
Taller 36 Arquitectura Ciudad
Un Techo Para Mi Hermano
Vecinos Sin Techo y por una Vivienda
Digna Asociación Civil

Bolivia

Centro de Estudios de la Realidad
Económica y Social
Fundación Pro Hábitat
Red Nacional de Asentamientos Humanos
Taller de Proyectos e Investigación del
Hábitat Urbano-Rural

Brazil

Brazilian Movement in Defense of Life
CEARAH Periferia
Centro de Assessoria a Autogestão Popular
Centro Gaspar Garcia de Direitos
Humanos
Cidadania e Direitos Humanos

Association Action Solidarité Couches Défavorisées
 Association Féminine des Femmes de Magnambougou
 Association pour le Progrès et la Défense des Droits des Femmes/Filles
 Coopérative Féminine pour la Protection de l'Environnement
 Coopérative Multifonctionnelle des Femmes de Badialam III
 Coopérative Multifonctionnelle des Femmes de Magranbogon
 Fonds de Garantie Hypothécaire
 GIE Foulani-Service
 Groupement d'Intérêt Economique GIE SANIYA
Mauritius
 Development Indian Ocean Network
Namibia
 Namibia Housing Action Group
Niger
 Contribution au Développement Rural
 Réseau des Femmes Habitantes
Nigeria
 Center for Advancement of Development Rights
 Centre for African Settlements Studies and Development
 Community Conservation & Development Initiatives
 Development Initiatives Network
 Female Architects of Nigeria
 Lagos Group for the Study of Human Settlements
 Nigerian Environmental Study/Action Team
 Social and Economic Rights Initiative
 Women Environmental Programme
 Women Protection Organization
 Women in Development & Environment
Senegal
 Association d'aide sanitaire aux plus démunis
 Association de Développement de Jeunes d'Ousouge
 Environnement et Développement du Tiers-Monde
 Habitants et Travailleurs Baraka
 Initiative pour le développement communautaire intégré
 Solidarité Internationale pour la Promotion de l'Habitat Social
 Stratégies Alternatives pour un Habitat et un Environnement Élargis
South Africa
 Built Environment Support Group
 Centre for Urbanism and Built Environment Studies - University of Witwatersrand
 Development Action Group
 PLANACT
 The New Housing Company-S.A
Tanzania
 Habitat for Humanity of Tanzania
 Women Advancement Trust
Togo
 Centre de Recherches Concertées sur le Développement
Uganda

South Korea
 Asian Bridge
Thailand
 Human Development Centre

Europe / 59

Belgium
 ASBL Habitat et Participation
 Post Graduate Centre
 Vlaams Overleg Bewonersbelangen
 Periferia
Denmark
 Foreign Student Department of School of Architecture
 The Royal Danish Academy of Fine Arts, Dept. of Human Settlements
France
 Atelier Temenos Sanghatane
 Action Nord Sud
 Groupe de Recherche et d'Echanges Technologiques
 Development Workshop France
 Confédération Générale du Logement
 Union Parisienne
 Centre de Recherche et d'Application
 Terre - América Latina
 Association Internationale de Techniciens, Experts et Chercheurs
 Urbanisme et Démocratie
 Association Droit Au Logement
 Fondation Abbé Pierre pour le logement des Défavorisés
 Habitat en Mouvement
 Droit à la (Belle) Ville
Germany
 Deutsche Entwicklungshilfe Für Soziales Wohnungs-UND
 TRIALOG e.V.
 Habitat Netz
Italy
 Unione Inquilini
Norway
 Habitat Norway
 Network of international diplomacy of international law and human rights
Netherlands
 International Council for Building Research Studies & Documentation
 International Society of City and Regional Planners
 Institute for Housing and Urban Development Studies
 AqN-Consult
 Arcilla Research
 Sean Devereux Human Rights Organization
Russia
 International Association
 Community Development Center CITIZEN FOUNDATION
 Russian Housing Federation
Spain
 Club de Amigos de la UNESCO de Madrid
 Arquitectos sin Frontera - España
 Plataforma Habitat España
 Observatori DESC
 Alternativas Sostenibles de Desarrollo

Confederación Nacional de Associações de Moradores
 Escola Politécnica da Universidade de São Paulo
 Federação dos Órgãos para Assistência Social e Educacional
 Fundação Centro De Defesa Dos Direitos Humanos Rubião
 Instituto de Estudos Socio-Económicos
 Instituto Pólis
 Movimento Nacional de Luta Pela Moradia
 Movimiento de Defensa Do Favelado
 Pastoral da Moradia Arquidiocese de São Paulo
 Sindicato de Arquitetos do R.J.
 União Dos Movimentos de Moradia de São Paulo
 União Nacional Por Moradia Popular
Chile
 Corporación de Desarrollo Social JUNDEP
 Observatorio de la Reconstrucción
 Servicio Latinoamericano y Asiático de Vivienda Popular
 SUR Corporación de Estudios Sociales y Educación
Colombia
 Asociación Medio Ambiente y Desarrollo
 Asociación de Vivienda AVP
 Corporación Región para el Desarrollo y la Democracia
 Escuela del Hábitat
 Foro Nacional por Colombia
Costa Rica
 Urbarium
 Fundación Promotora de Vivienda
Cuba
 Centro de Intercambio y Referencia de Iniciativas Comunitarias
 Centro Memorial Martin Luther King Jr.
Dominican Republic
 Centro Dominicano de Asesoría e Investigaciones Legales
 Ciudad Alternativa
 Comisión Nacional de los Derechos Humanos
 Comité de Desarrollo del Tamarindo
 Comité para la Defensa de los Derechos Barriales
 Consejo de Desarrollo Comunitario de la Caleta
 Consejo de Unidad Popular
Ecuador
 Asociación Cristiana de Jóvenes del Ecuador
 Centro de Estudios y Tecnología para Asentamientos Andinos
 Centro de Investigaciones CIUDAD
 Corporación de Estudios Regionales - Guayaquil
 Foro Urbano
 Fundación Ecuatoriana del Hábitat
 Somos Ecuador
El Salvador
 Coordinadora Centroamericana
 Autogestionaria de la Vivienda Solidaria
 Fundación Salvadoreña de Desarrollo y Vivienda Mínima

Grassroots Women Development Organisation
Shelter and Settlements Alternatives: Uganda Human Settlements Network
Zambia
Mizhipa Housing Cooperative Society
Zimbabwe
Housing People of Zimbabwe

Middle East and North Africa / 37

Afghanistan

Agency of Consultancy for Training

Egypt

Awlad al-Ardh Human Rights Organization (Sons of the Land)

Better Life Association for Comprehensive Development

Coptic Evangelical Organization for Social Services

Darwish Consulting Engineers Ltd.

Egyptian Association for Collective Rights

Egyptian Center for Civil and Legislative Reform

Egyptian Centre for Housing Rights

Habi Center for Environmental Rights

Land Center for Human Rights

Social Peace Initiative for Sudan

Iraq

Office of Human Rights & Forced Migration

Together to Protect Human & the Environment Association

Israel

Mossawa Center - The Advocacy for the Arab Palestinian Citizens of Israel

The Association of Forty

Jordan

Amman Center for Human Rights Studies

Dana and Qadisiyah Local Community Cooperative

Morocco

Association Marocaine des Droits de l'Homme

Environnement Développement et Action au Maghreb

Right to Water Forum in Arab Region

Mauritania

Association Mauritanienne pour le Bien Etre et le Secours de l'Enfant et de la Mère

Palestine

Applied Research Institute of Jerusalem

Arab Center for Agricultural Development

Badil Resource Center for Palestinian Residency and Refugee Rights

Civic Coalition for Defending Palestinian Right in Jerusalem

Democracy and Workers' Rights Center in Palestine

Land Research Center

Palestinian Commission for the Protection of Refugee Rights

The Wall Committee

Sudan

Entishar Charity Society

The Economic, Social and Cultural Rights Group

Turkey

Asociación Al-Gea

Enginyeria Sense Fronteres Catalunya

Asociación de Amistad con el Pueblo Saharaui de Sevilla

Sweden

International Union of Tenants

Housing Development and Management

ARC Peace International, Architects, Designers, Planners for Social Responsibility

KTH

Switzerland

Laboratoire de Sociologie Urbaine

International Network for Urban Research and Action

UrbaMonde

United Kingdom

Homeless International

School of Public Policy - Institute of Local Government Studies

Institute of Advanced Architectural Studies

International Affairs Officer, Board of The Royal Town Planning Institute

International Institute for Environment and Development

International Movement of Rights and Humanity

Soroptimist International

Town and Country Planning Association

Intermediate Technology Development Group

Schumacher Centre for Technology and Development

Housing Policy and Practice Unit

The Bartlett Development Planning Unit

World Habitat (ex-BSHF)

North America / 30

Canada

Advocacy Centre for Tenants Ontario

Canadian Housing & Renewal Association

Center for Equality Rights in Accommodation

Centre for Human Settlements, University of British Columbia

Development Workshop-Canada

Habitat for Humanity Canada

Homes First Society, Community Development Officer

Housing Committee of the National Action Committee on the Status of Women

Mouvement Action Chômeur de Longueuil

National Housing and Homelessness Network

Réseau Québécois des OSBL d'Habitation

Rooftops Canada / Abri International

Tenants' Rights Action Coalition

Wellesley Institute

United States

Association of Community Organizations for Reform Now

Bahai' International Community

Global Communities

Henry Street Settlement House

Institute for Transportation and Development Policy

International Real Estate Institute

International Rivers Network

Movimiento Comunal Salvadoreño

Guatemala

Asociación para el Mejoramiento Habitacional de Guatemala

Asociación Servicios a Programas de Desarrollo e Investigación

Frente de Pobladores de Guatemala

Instituto para el Desarrollo Económico Social de América Latina

Honduras

Instituto para la Cooperación y Autodesarrollo

Jamaica

Construction Resource & Development Centre Ltd.

Habitat for Humanity, Jamaica LTD

Mexico

Casa y Ciudad A.C.

Centro Operacional de Vivienda y Poblamiento A.C.

Centro Periferia de Estudios de la Vivienda

Cooperación Comunitaria CC ONG

México A.C.

Fomento Solidario de la Vivienda A.C.

Grupo Ciudad y Patrimonio A.C

OCUPA TU CIUDAD A.C.

Taller de Arquitectura Popular

Tu Techo Mexicano de Occidente A.C.

Unión Popular Valle Gómez

Nicaragua

Centro de Investigación y Promoción del Hábitat

Centro de Investigaciones y Estudios Municipales

Centro de Promoción del Desarrollo Local

Movimiento Comunal Nicaragüense

Panama

Centro de Capacitación Social de Panamá

Instituto de Estudios

Peru

Alternativa, Centro de Investigación Social y Educación Popular

Caritas Chosica

Centro de Estudios y Prevención de Desastres

Centro de Estudios y Promoción de Desarrollo

Centro de Investigación, Documentación y Asesoría Poblacional

Instituto de Desarrollo de la Vivienda Económica

Instituto de Desarrollo Urbano - CENCA

Movimiento para la Realización del Hábitat Social

Soluciones Prácticas ITDG

Trinidad & Tobago

Sou-Sou Land Co-Operative Society Limited

Uruguay

Centro Cooperativista Uruguayo

Federación de Cooperativas de Vivienda de Usuarios por Ahorro Previo

Federación Uruguaya de Cooperativistas de Vivienda por Ayuda Mutua

Housing Cooperatives of Central Union of Turkey (Türkiye S.S. Yapı Kooperatifleri Merkez Birliği)

Tunisia

Enda Inter-Arabe

Yemen

Sisters Arab Forum for Human Rights (Muntada al-Shaqa`iq al-Arabi li Huquq al-Insan)

Social Democratic Forum

Women Development Organization

Yemeni Youth Development Organization

Metro Atlanta Task Force for the Homeless

National Alliance of HUD Tenants

National Alliance to end Homelessness

National Association of Housing and

Redevelopment Officials

National Coalition for the Homeless

National Law Center on Homelessness and Poverty

Pathways to Peace

Planners Network

Public Interest Law Center of New Jersey

Unidad Permanente de Vivienda, Facultad de Arquitectura, Universidad de la República

Venezuela

Facultad de Arquitectura y Universidad

Central de Venezuela

Fundación Vivienda Popular

Welcome to our new Members 2017

During 2017, HIC received 11 new applications for membership (from 10 organizations and 1 individual), and 60 new subscribers to HIC News. Of the complete applications (with full institutional documents for Members' applications or personal CV for Friends' applications) received for membership, HIC approved and welcomed 8 new organizations as Members and 1 persons as Friend.



Observatorio del Derecho a la Vivienda / Argentina



ASSOAL pour le développement Local / Cameroon



Réseau National des Habitants du Cameroun / Cameroon



CODAS Caritas Douala / Cameroon



Réseau Québécois des OSBL d'Habitation / Canada - Québec



URBARIUM / Costa Rica



Dajopen Waste Management Project / Kenya



Mizhipa Housing Cooperative Society / Zambia

HIC Global Data

On December 31st, 2017, HIC had 350 Members (organizations that applied to the Membership, were formally approved and had contributed at least once with in-kind contributions or annual fees). Between January 1, 2017 and December 31st, 2017, the online system received 11 new applications for membership (from 10 organizations and 1 person). 8 organizations and one friend were approved in the considered period. Regarding Membership fees payment, a total amount of US\$1,980 and €275 were received through 24 payments. In addition, 8 HIC Members had contributed through in-kind contributions. HIC Mailing List also received 60 new subscription requests reaching a total amount of 1,280 Subscribers between Allies/Partners, and

Social Basis. It's important to highlight that an important part of the HIC Social Basis is composed of active organizations which are not included in this definition of Members. Instead, they are considered as Allies or Partners (the list is available and updated in this Annual Report 2017). Other relevant figure is the number of individuals related via HIC Social Media Tools, which surpassed 5,000 in 2017. More precisely, 5,105 individuals follow HIC's Facebook page, getting 1,004 followers in this period; HIC mailing lists' have 2,207 subscribers; HIC's Twitter account has 2,300 subscribers getting 481 followers in this period.

Note: The amount of Members might vary from a year to another due to the fact that some organization cease to work, others are victims repression of the government of their countries and are obliged to cease activities, and also because some have Members have requested to be removed of the membership list.

The elections processes of Representatives at the HIC Board always represent, for the General Secretary, an opportunity to review and update the membership list, and for the Members, to reaffirm or dismiss their participation in the activities of the Coalition.

HIC Faces

HIC Wisdom Keepers



Han van Putten
(1922-2009)
The Netherlands



Diana Lee
Kenya



Barry Pinsky
Canada



Davinder Lamba
Kenya



Tabitha Siwale
Tanzania



Eike Schuetz
Germany



Ana Sugranyes
Chile



Enrique Ortiz
Mexico

HIC Board Members



Lorena Zárate
President
FOSovi - Mexico



Pauline Yao
Africa
FCIEX - Ivory Coast



Alexandre Apsan Frediani
Europe
The Bartlett DPU - UK



Ramiro García
Latin America
DESCO - Peru



Raja Kassab
Middle East
/ North Africa
RWFAR - Morocco



Stéphan Corriveau
Canadian Housing
Renewal Association

HIC Board Alternates



Maartje van Eerd
Europe
IHS - Netherlands



Alicia Sánchez
Latin America
FTV - Argentina



Aref Al-Maqrami
Middle East
/ North Africa
CIHLHR - Yemen

HIC Reference Centers Staff



Davinder Lamba
HIC-Africa Focal
Point
Nairobi



Yves Joël Zoffoun
HIC-Africa Focal Point
Cotonou



Ahmed Mansour
HIC-HLRN
Cairo



Joana Ricart
HIC-HLRN
Cairo



Joseph Schechla
HIC-HLRN
Cairo



Yasser Abdel Qader
HIC-HLRN /
Cairo



Blanca Hernández
HIC-Latin America
Mexico



Claudia Hernández
HIC-Latin America
Mexico



Dennis Jiménez
HIC-Latin America
Mexico



Jerónimo Díaz
HIC-Latin America
Mexico



Maria Silvia
Emanuelli
HIC-Latin America
Mexico



Norma Aguilar
HIC-Latin America
Mexico



Shivani Chaudhry
HIC-South Asia
Delhi



Peter Slits
HIC Liaison
Officer in the
Netherlands

HIC General Secretariat



Álvaro Puertas



Isabel Pascual



Marie Bailloux



Eduard Cabré

HIC Remembers



Kuria Gathuru

Our colleague and friend, Patterson Kuria Gathuru, left us on 15 November 2017. He is known to us as the Habitat International Coalition's co-member on the IPC, advocating the issues and human rights of the urban food-insecure constituency. Many of you also know him as an IPC colleague in this movement that we share.

Kuria, or Baba Ayub (Father of Ayub), was born on the 27th day of August 1956, in Gituamba Village, Lari Constituency, Kiambu County, Kenya. As any other child then, Kuria grew up helping his parents look after livestock and tend the farm. After having passed his O-Level and A-Level exams in the 1970s, Kuria proceeded to the University of Nairobi, earning a Bachelor of Science degree in 1980. He later studied at the University of Khartoum for his Masters in Environmental Studies and Remote Sensing.

Thereafter, he joined Mazingira Institute (Nairobi) as a researcher on the Urban Food and Fuel Situation in Kenya project.

In 1987, Kuria left Mazingira Institute to initiate the 1st urban-agriculture project in the slums of Nairobi in an initiative funded by the Rockefeller Foundation. Kuria served as Undugu Society of Kenya's deputy head of programs. By May 1995, Kuria had moved to Netherlands Development Organization (SNV) Kenya as urban program adviser, and then to the Presbyterian Church of East Africa (PCEA) Eastleigh Community Centre for three years.

From 2002 to 2005, Kuria was Kenya Green Towns Partnership Association national coordinator. His mission was to transform Kenya's urban centers into vibrant socio-economic hubs whose growth is not at the expense of the environment.

Kuria then returned to Mazingira Institute as the coordinator of the Urban Agriculture and Food Security Project. There he was instrumental in developing training on urban agriculture and a farmers network, called Nairobi and Environs Food Security, Agriculture and Livestock Forum (NEFSALF), and got involved in organizing exchanges linking Nairobi, Cape Town and Toronto. In his life, Kuria has traveled in at least 15 diverse countries.

Kuria fell in love with Dorcas WambuKungu. Their 1983 marriage soon was blessed with a son, Ayub Makimei. Twelve years later, they formalized their union at the Attorney General's Chambers. He enjoyed a healthy life until April 2017, when he was taken ill and admitted at Mater Hospital, Nairobi. He passed on while undergoing treatment on 15 November. At 61 years, Kuria left behind a dear extended family, and a legacy of passionate care, work and wisdom.

"Your life was love and labour."
—Ayub
(His son wrote in a tribute to Kuria)

Nick Volk

Born in Teaneck N.J., Nicholas Volk soon decided that his goals in life included travelling the world and being able to sleep anywhere. Throughout his life, he fulfilled these goals by visiting 76 different countries and all continents (except Antarctica) and developed the ability to sleep anywhere from a boat deck on the Yangtze River to a grass hut in Central Africa.

Nick graduated from Harvard University in 1953 with a BA in International Relations and Affairs and later joined the U.S. Foreign Service in 1958. He and his wife Barbara lived in Southeast and East Asia, Washington and finally Canada, where Nick was posted to Toronto as a member of the U.S. Consulate. Years later Barbara encouraged Nick to use his talents of raising money to support those less fortunate. And so began his tireless crusade as an advocate for affordable housing and social justice.

Nick was the driving force behind the Society of St. Vincent de Paul's first foray into providing housing for low-income families. Over the course of seven years, he created Vincent Paul Family Homes Corporation, a non-profit organization, as a way to mobilize the community and raise funds for affordable housing. Nick remained actively involved in this endeavor right up to his final days.

Nick started volunteering with Habitat for Humanity Toronto in 1993 and served on the Board of Directors from 1994 to 2002, and was the Chair from 1998 to 2002. After 2002, Nick continued his service to the Board in an advisory role. Nick was a tireless champion of both Habitat for Humanity and the families it served. Under Nick's leadership, Habitat Toronto significantly increased its capacity to build homes for more families.

In addition, and over the years, Nick was Provincial Chair of St. Vincent de Paul, Chair of the Toronto Community Housing Corporation, a Member of

Dixon Hall Community Services, the Ontario Non Profit Housing Association, the Rooftops Canada-Abri International Board, the Interfaith Social Assistance Reform Coalition, and long-time active Member of Our Lady of Perpetual Help Parish.

Nick's ties with Habitat International Coalition (HIC) date back to his role as representative of the Canadian Housing and Renewal Association followed by his mandate as North American Region representative to the HIC Board between January 2008 and December 2011. Nick became HIC Friend in 2006 and kept on making very valuable contributions to the broader Coalition. He participated in numerous HIC global events (Cairo 2005, Vancouver 2006, Barcelona 2008, Nanjin 2008, Cairo 2009, Belem 2009, Rio 2010) and he also volunteered for the Electoral Committees of the 2013 and 2017 HIC-NAM elections; Nick's contributions were always very much appreciated.

Nick has been honoured with a number of recognitions. Notable among these is the Governor General's Caring Canadian Award in 2003 for significant, sustained and unpaid contributions to the community in Canada or abroad, and the Canadian Housing and Renewal Association International Award in 2013 for outstanding work to advance international collaboration and dialogue among affordable housing leaders around the world and for contributions to international professional exchanges.

Nick was a restless fighter for social justice and the right to housing, a life-long supporter and friend of Habitat International Coalition. HIC members and staff were very honoured to be his friends.

"Find a need. Ask what you can do to help. And do it." (Nick Volk)

Sibonelo Patrick Mpeku

Sibonelo Patrick Mpeku was a leader of Abahlali baseMjondolo, a social movement of shack-dwellers living in South Africa's informal settlements. He served as Chairperson of the local Sisonke Village branch, and as member of Abahlali's KwaZulu/Natal Provincial Council. Mr. Mpeku worked to defend the right of shack dwellers to basic services and political participation in Sisonke Village.

His murder is one of the multiple attacks that Abahlali baseMjondolo has suffered since its inception in early 2005, after a road blockade organized by residents of the Kennedy Road Shack Settlement in the City of Durban.

Abahlali baseMjondolo is a radically democratic, grassroots and entirely non-professionalised movement of shack dwellers whose membership has grown from the entire population of the 6 000 strong Kennedy Road settlement to the point where 13 entire settlements have voted to collectively affiliate to Abahlali and govern themselves autonomously from state politics. There are also a further 23 branches in other settlements that are not collectively affiliated to Abahlali but which do allow independent political activity. The movement advocates for the rights of people living in shacks

including access to decent housing, services and education. Its members have been the targets of ongoing intimidation and physical attacks due to corruption at the local political level. Since 2007, seven members of Abahlali baseMjondolo have been killed, including Sibonelo Patrick Mpeku.

The human rights defender was killed on 19 November 2017, when he was forcibly taken from his shack and stabbed to death by unknown assailants in the informal settlement of Sisonke Village in the province of KwaZulu-Natal.

Abahlali baseMjondolo described the Memorial Service as a celebration of "his life and his contribution to building the power of the impoverished in struggle. Mpeku was one of our great cadres who knew he needed to be humble and respect others in order to demonstrate the kind of leadership that we want. But at the same time Mpeku knew that he needed to be firm and brave to realise land, housing and dignity."

Sibonelo Patrick Mpeku participated in HIC's global meetings in Nairobi in October 2017 on behalf his grassroots movement. The terrible news shook HIC Members, Friends and Allies profoundly.

Mario Váscónez

Mario was co-founder of the Centro de Investigaciones CIUDAD (Quito, Ecuador), a collaboration that lasted 32 years in which he would be a researcher and its Director. Later he founded with other colleagues the Faculty of Architecture, Design and Arts of the Catholic University. Mario worked on urban and housing issues as well as promoting the protection and defense of water becoming an international fighter for this vital resource as well as for the environment, while directing the park system of the Metropolitan District of Quito.

Mario was one of the promoters of the meeting 'Towards a City for Life', (Quito 1995) which was attended by around 1,100 people from 15 Latin American and the Caribbean countries, as well as from other regions. Among the participants, there were members of non-governmental and social organisations, civil servants from national and local government administrations, business persons, community leaders, professionals and students. 35 workshops analysed and proposed alternatives to face the challenges of improving the quality of life in cities. The meeting had the aim of analysing and preparing a regional proposal to be presented in

Istanbul, in June 1996 on the occasion of the Habitat II Conference.

There was also an exhibition of experiences with around 300 projects developed in the region during the previous twenty years, which as a whole covered more than 20 subjects related to habitat.

This major exhibition was miraculously recovered 20 years later and displayed in Quito on the occasion of Habitat III. A full report of this amazing journey and other wonderful short stories can be found at Mario's personal blog.

<http://mariovasquez.blogspot.com.es/>
(only available in Spanish).

Edin Martínez

Edin de Jesús Martínez Ortega was born in Chalatenango, El Salvador, on 2 August 1945. Edin undertook his Philosophy and Theology studies in the San José de la Montaña Seminar, between 1967 and 1973. In 1978 he graduated in Sociology from Rodrigo Facio University (San José, Costa Rica). He pursued his studies on European Cooperation in Rome, including study visits to Paris, Brussels, The Hague, London, Bonn and Geneva, as well as academic exchanges with each countries' cooperation institutions, upon organisation by 'Associazione Studi America Latina'(ASAL). Later, he studied financial technology for housing programmes at the DEG (Berlin, Germany) in 1983. Edin also complemented his education on foreign languages by spending some time in the United Kingdom and France. He was eventually appointed as Full Professor on Special Sociology at Universidad Centroamericana José Simeón Cañas, UCA, in 1984.

Between 1970 and 1986, he worked from different senior position at 'Fundación Salvadoreña de Desarrollo y Vivienda Mínima' (Fundasal, El Salvador Foundation for Development and Basic Housing): Educational Unit, Social Action area, Planning and Studies Unit, and as the foundation's

Executive Director (1988-2009). Was at that time that Edin became Member of the HIC's Board, a position he held between 1988 and 1993. In June 2009, he was appointed Deputy Minister for Housing and Urban Development of the El Salvador government, a position he hold in an honourable and transparent way until May 2011.

Edin – as he was affectionately called by Fundasal staff – was loved by the communities he worked with, and fully passionate for improving El Salvador families' environments through different working axis with the foundation. Edin fostered relations with cooperation entities. He also represented the foundation to national and international organisations, managed resources for programmes' delivery, overseeing its appropriate use, always seeking to ensure Fundasal's financial sustainability, and also promoting new policies and reviewing old ones.

His eyes would light up when he talked about his beloved wife Marise, to whom he referred as his best friend and partner of social struggles, family and sons. Fundasal and HIC deeply regretted Edin's death on 24 July 2017.

HIC Structures' Reports

HIC Presidency

The activities of the presidency during 2017 were focused on strengthening and disseminating the work of the Coalition, while broadening and deepening the coordination and alliances with key organizations and actors with whom we share objectives and strategies for the defense, promotion and realization of the right of every person to a safe place to live in peace and with dignity.

As part of her most important institutional tasks, Lorena was actively involved in the preparation, implementation and follow-up of the General Assembly and Board meeting held in Nairobi (Kenya) in October. She also participated in the training workshop, the public event with representatives of the UN-Habitat office and visits to communities in precarious settlements (Mashimoni). The busy schedule included working meetings with representatives from MISEREOR, the Ford Foundation and the Rosa Luxemburg Foundation.

In terms of regional activities, it is worth highlighting the planning meeting for Mexico and Central America in March, where our president had the opportunity to share debates, reflections and planning strategies with the HIC-AL office and members of 13 organizations from 8 countries. Additionally, several trips allowed her to participate in public events and meetings with members and allies of our network in Boston, Buenos Aires, Hamburg, Jeju, London, Milan, New York, Ottawa, Portland, São Paulo, Seoul and Toronto.

At the international level, she was invited to contribute to the "The Shift" campaign promoted by the UN Special Rapporteur on the Right to Adequate Housing, Leilani Farha. To this end, Lorena was present at the initial meetings held in Ottawa (Canada) in June, as well as at the public launch event held in the city of Barcelona (Catalonia, Spain) in November, where she shared a panel with the Mayor Ada Colau, the Rapporteur, and authorities and academics from various cities around the world. At the same time, she was part of the working meeting convened by the United Cities and Local Governments (UCLG) network in order to provide reflections and proposals for the global thematic report on housing prepared by the agency and that will be disseminated during 2019.

In addition to the usual lectures at universities and meetings with students, Lorena became involved in three webinars promoted by various institutions and actively contributed to the design and implementation of an online pilot course on the right to the city together with the Observatori DESC (HIC member), UCLG Committee on Social Inclusion, Participatory Democracy and Human Rights (UCLG-CISDP) and the Global Platform for the Right to the City (GPR2C).

As part of the dissemination work, our president worked on the preparation/adaptation of three articles, two of which were published during 2017 and a third at the beginning of 2018:

- *Cuarenta años ¿no son nada? La lucha por la inclusión del derecho a la ciudad en la agenda global* (<http://www.hic-gs.org/document.php?pid=7251>)
- They are not Informal Settlements - They are Habitat made by People (<https://rowman.com/ISBN/9781442274488/Urban-Latin-America-Inequalities-and-Neoliberal-Reforms>)
- Mexico, Mobility and the Right to the City (<http://blackrosebooks.net/products/view/Free+Public+Transportation:+And+Why+We+Don't+Pay+to+Ride+Elevators/82910>)

Throughout the year, she was involved in various initiatives and follow-up spaces for the implementation of the New Urban Agenda and the Sustainable Development Goals at global and local level. As part of the support group, Lorena actively participated in the planning, training and advocacy activities promoted by the Global Platform for the Right to the City and was invited to evaluate experiences for the Transforming Cities contest (<https://transformativecities.org/>) promoted by the Transnational Institute based in Amsterdam.

HIC General Secretariat

After the Habitat III whirlwind, the HIC General Secretariat focused on the preparation of 2017's global events to be held in Nairobi in October 2017. This was a longstanding commitment with HIC Members in the African region. At the same time the HIC GS continued its decentralized strategy towards the implementation of HIC's mission and its four central objectives, i) Advance toward gender equality and equity, ii) Defend the right to a healthy environment, iii) Promote and implement the Social Production of Habitat, and iv) work in the defence, promotion and realization of human rights related to housing and land, while fighting against violations of all rights related to habitat in both rural and urban areas.

2017 saw a deterioration in the life situation of communities worldwide. They not only were denied benefit from the poor economic improvement since 2008's global crisis, but were also affected by lower real incomes, job insecurity and informality. Recent changes in Latin America and Europe to neoliberal policies and the avalanche of private investment in land, water, food systems and housing (to name a few of the habitat commons converted to assets) deprived many of their basic habitat rights. This was combined with multiple cases of corruption, political instability and conflict, in particular in the Middle East and North Africa regions. In the case of Europe, the observed positive shift to social policies by regional and local governments has been counteracted by austerity by severely indebted and neoliberal national governments that, in some cases, revealed anti-migrants and racist discourses. Recent developments in Argentina, United States, Brazil, Italy, France and Austria, among others, reflect this shift. Unfortunately, 2017 witnessed continuous violations of habitat rights, both in the global south and the global north, including an appalling number of forced evictions.

HIC responded to these and other challenges by increasing the communication and networking with Members with concrete needs (Africa); reinforcing existing networks (Latin America); increasing the interaction with European Members and Allies; and by launching initiatives in the Middle East and North Africa in coordination with other HIC coordination offices.

The work with HIC Members and Allies in North America and Asia was organized around two major events: the High Level Political Forum (New York, July 2017) and the World Urban Forum 9 (Kuala Lumpur, February 2018). HIC exerted a major effort to engage with Members in Africa with multiple events in October 2017 (HIC Human Rights Habitat Observatory launch, HIC General Assembly, and Global Platform for the Right to the City meetings). The African events, which involved a heavy workload in the HIC-GS and an important investment of both time and resources, were rewarded with a great participation and involvement of Members and Allies, which continued in 2018 with several initiatives. A similar strategy should be developed during the new 2018–2020 project in Asia.

In general, target groups benefited from the exchange of experiences and initiatives among HIC Members, Reference Centers and Allies from different fields of work, in particular the four HIC competences of (social) production of habitat, gender, environment and rights. The implementation of other programs (Global Platform for the Right to City and Social Production of Habitat Platform among others) ensured better alignment with Members' interests and expertise.

2017 also involved organizational changes in the HIC-GS (new location and more personnel) which improved the implementation of the current global projects and the overall achievement of their objectives. Two major projects were implemented during 2017: i) 'Integrating people's housing and land rights with sustainable development', implemented by the HIC GS and HIC HLRN and ii) 'Global Platform for the Right to the City: 2017-2021 action plan', implemented by the HIC GS and HIC Member POLIS Institute (Brazil).

During 2017, HIC GS held regular meetings with potential donors to support the global coordination of HIC in future years. This included MISEREOR, the Ford Foundation (FF) and the Charles Léopold Mayer Foundation for the Progress of Humankind.

- MISEREOR committed to support the work of the HIC GS for the period 2018-2020.
- FF committed to support the work of the GPR2C for the period 2018-2021. This project will be coordinated by POLIS and HIC GS.

- FPH committed to fund HIC to develop multi-stakeholder research initiatives of academics, CS actors and Local Governments for the period 2018-2020.

Regarding the HIC Board, at the time of this report, it had a new North America region representative while the elections in Africa, which were scheduled for October 2017, ended successfully in 2018 with a new representative.

The HIC GS benefitted from an intense collaboration with HIC Presidency and HIC Board which played an essential role guiding the HIC GS and making recommendations. A special mention goes to HIC President Lorena Zárate who implemented an intense global agenda of conferences, meetings and actions representing HIC worldwide. 2017 saw as well regular coordination with HIC Reference Centers (Mexico DF, Cairo and New Delhi) and continuous communication and collaboration with HIC Members and Allies. A fundamental collaboration was developed with POLIS Institute, HIC Member co-coordinating the Global Platform for the Right to the City. This collaboration continues today.

HIC in Latin America and the Caribbean

During 2017 the HIC Latin America office coordinated the second sub-regional workshop on participatory strategic planning, an activity aimed at strengthening regional articulation and continuing to build a strong Coalition -one of HIC's three strategic objectives-. The first of these workshops, focused on Southern Cone based HIC Members, was held in Buenos Aires in March 2016, while the second was held in Mexico City and focused on Mexico, the Spanish-speaking Caribbean and Central America based HIC Members. The specific objectives, which were set as a group, were:

- To construct a collective analysis of the sub-regional context of socio-housing and urban policies and to analyze it critically.
- To broaden knowledge and strengthen relationships among HIC Member organizations by sharing their objectives, main actions and strategies.
- To identify common objectives and possible synergies to strengthen local-national and sub-regional actions.
- To agree on an agile communication protocol, adapted to the resources and internal protocols of the Member organizations.
- To agree self-management procedures for Member organizations that enhances the possibilities of coordination and synergy between them and with the regional office HIC-AL.

The workshop was attended by 22 people from 13 organizations from Guatemala, Costa Rica, Cuba, El Salvador, Mexico, Nicaragua, Honduras and the Dominican Republic. The main agreements were to continue building training spaces, both formal and non-formal, the latter fed by popular education, following a conceptual and political approach based in the social production of habitat and the right to the city. These capacity building spaces will serve to share methodologies and successful experiences that can be examples for other sectors of the population. The working groups responsible for the above were the Habitat Capacity Building group (FOC-HAB) and the Social Production of Habitat.

With regard to communication, questions were raised about the need to continue building a collaborative strategy that focuses on diversity, on reaching to different generations, on promoting horizontal dialogue between Members and on contributing to the formation of subjects of change and their coordination. Finally, participants raised the need to promote a regional campaign in favour of security of tenure and access to land for all.

Most of these agreements are being implemented. This is the case of the first webinar on Social Production and Management of Housing and Habitat in Latin America, an open and free training space developed in collaboration with the FOC-HAB working group and held in October-November 2017. The training took place online and attracted the interest of 150 people from 17 countries, of which 90 were selected by the academic group formed for this purpose[1]. This training, which lasted seven sessions and included 19 theoretical-practical presentations by Members and Allies from Argentina, Brazil, El Salvador, Honduras, Mexico and Uruguay, shared

a series of teachings and materials that were systematized and made available to participants and to the general public through the HIC-AL website and YouTube[2]. The evaluations of the participants were very positive.



During 2017, HIC AL also participated in the elaboration of the "Joint Civil Society Report on Economic, Social, Cultural and Environmental Rights in Mexico 2018" that was sent to the United Nations Committee on ESC Rights based in Geneva. HIC-AL was in charge of the forced evictions case, which is included in the section dedicated to the right to adequate housing. This case had outstanding collaborations, such as that of the Member of HIC Casa y Ciudad[3]. In order to have objective data on forced evictions, and in the absence of a national official records on the matter, HIC-AL and Oxfam Mexico collaborated in the development of a methodology to carry out an investigation focused on counting the number of people evicted by dam projects between 2006 and 2016, period analyzed by the Report[4]. The most shocking result was to discover that only 14% of the projects analyzed have official records on the number of people evicted, which leads to the conclusion that in the vast majority of cases, their situation is invisible. This means that those affected do not have economic compensation or adequate housing, all of which implies flagrant violations of their human rights. In March 2018, the Mexican State will be analyzed by the Committee which, after analyzing the official report as well as that of civil society, will issue recommendations.

On the other hand, and due to the earthquakes that affected Mexico in 2017, HIC-AL convened multiple coordination meetings with Members and allies focused on issues of reconstruction in the territory (especially in the Tehuentepec Isthmus and also in Chiapas, State of Mexico, Puebla and Morelos). These meetings served to share information, build bridges of mutual support and favour the systematization of the processes that each collective was promoting. In addition to this, a series of documents focused on proposing a social reconstruction of the habitat in line with human rights were elaborated.

Finally, HIC AL continued to work to improve links with urban and rural Mexican and regional social movements in the defense of human rights related to habitat.

[1] The group was formed by Mariana Enet (Taller de diseño cooperativo, Universidad Nacional de Córdoba, Argentina), Bela Pelli (Universidad Nacional del Nordeste, Facultad de Arquitectura y Urbanismo, Instituto de Investigación y Desarrollo Argentina, Resistencia, Argentina), Gustavo Romero, (Facultad de Arquitectura de la Universidad Nacional Autónoma de México, México) and María Silvia Emanuelli (HIC-AL Coordinator, México).

[2] The programme, recordings and materials shared in the webinar are available at: http://archivo.hic-al.org/FTP/WebinarPSH_2017.pdf

[3] The Report is available at: www.hic-al.org

[4] The results of the research were used as input for the Report. It is currently being published for wide dissemination.

HIC in South Asia

The year 2017 was characterized by a range of activities, including conferences, training and exchange workshops, convening of network meetings, publications, and advocacy interventions at different levels by Housing and Land Rights Network India (HIC HLRN-India), aimed at promoting the realization of the human rights to adequate housing and land, especially for the most marginalized.

The 'housing rights fellowship' initiated by HIC HLRN-India in three cities entered its third year with several positive outcomes. In addition to improved understanding and awareness of human rights laws, policies, and standards among local communities, field research and advocacy by fellows from the grassroots, resulted in improved living conditions in a few settlements and resettlement sites, as well as positive court orders recognizing rights of residents to housing and resettlement.

HIC HLRN-India actively participated in the process leading to India's third Universal Periodic Review (UPR III) at the UN Human Rights Council in May 2017. In this regard, HIC HLRN-India coordinated and published a joint stakeholders' submission to the Council on 'The Human Rights to Adequate Housing and Land,' [1] spoke at a pre-session in Geneva on issues of housing, land, water, and food in India, and prepared fact sheets on the rights to housing and land, as part of a larger national compilation [2]. In September 2017, HIC HLRN issued a press release supporting India's acceptance of UPR III recommendations related to housing, sustainable development, and poverty eradication. A number of the accepted recommendations were a direct result of advocacy work done by HIC HLRN-India with recommending states.

At the fourth session of the open-ended intergovernmental working group on a UN declaration on the rights of peasants and other people working in rural areas [3], HIC HLRN-India was invited to participate as an independent expert. This involved making a presentation [4] at the Human Rights Council, being a panelist throughout the week-long session and commenting on the draft text throughout the deliberations during the week-long session.

In order to promote awareness on and support local struggles for housing and land rights, HIC HLRN-India regularly engages in primary research, documentation, and publication in association with partners. In 2017, three such collaborative reports were published. While these were well received by local communities and covered extensively by the media, they have been used to assist struggles of affected persons for improved living conditions in different parts of India. In partnership with Information and Resource Centre for Deprived Urban Communities, HLRN-India published a study titled, '*From Deluge to Displacement: The Impact of Post-flood Evictions and Resettlement in Chennai.*' In a positive development, officials of the Tamil Nadu Slum Clearance Board who attended the launch event stated that given the persistent violations of human rights of resettled communities, the government would not resettle the urban poor to remote sites in Chennai but identify land within the city for low-income housing. Fields of View, Slum Jagatthu, and HIC HLRN worked on a primary research study to document and quantify the long-term impacts of a forced eviction in Bengaluru using HIC HLRN's 'Eviction Impact Assessment Tool.' The published report is being used to assist affected families access just compensation and adequate resettlement.

In collaboration with Prakriti, a grassroots women's organization working in the western Indian state of Maharashtra, HIC HLRN-India published a study on the human rights violations faced by 'farm widows,' with a focus on their rights to housing and land. Launched on the International Day of Women Farmers (15 October), the report has been used to generate awareness on the intersectional discrimination faced by 'farm widows' and to pressurize the state to respond adequately to their concerns. Workshops were also conducted to inform affected women about their rights and provisions available in different laws and schemes.

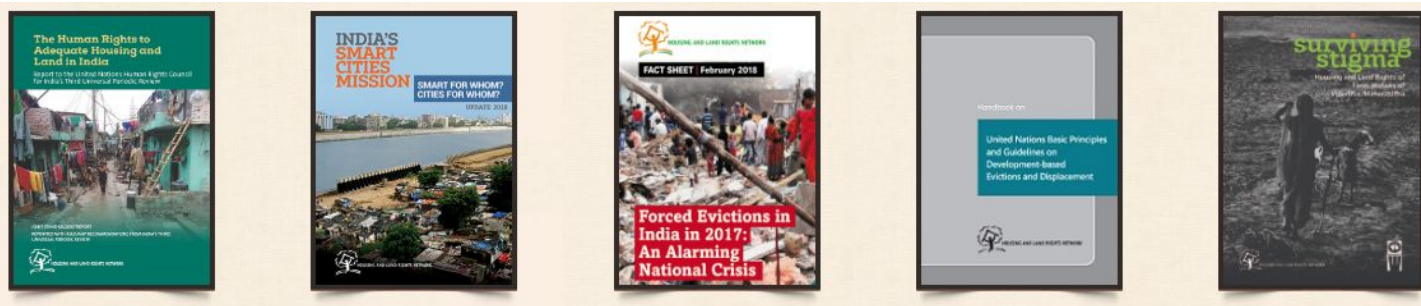
The year 2017 witnessed a growing number of forced evictions across India with alarming impunity and the absence of due process. While maintaining a 'national eviction and displacement observatory' to document this data, HIC HLRN-India also worked on multiple strategies to prevent evictions and to assist evicted persons. In this regard, HIC HLRN-India helped affected communities with emergency relief in the aftermath of evictions, and assisted them in accessing state grievance redress mechanisms and legal remedy. We also continued to engage with local and government officials, human rights institutions, and international mechanisms to seek social justice for affected persons for the violations of their housing and land rights.

An important component of HIC HLRN-India's work is policy analysis and monitoring, with a specific focus on housing and land issues. In 2015, the Government of India launched an ambitious 'Smart Cities Mission' to create 100 'smart cities' by 2020. On the occasion of the second anniversary of this initiative, HIC HLRN-India published a human rights assessment of the Mission. HIC HLRN-India also spoke on 'smart cities' at a conference on urbanization organized by WBGU in Berlin in June 2017, and at a conference organized by the Heidelberg University, in collaboration with the Xavier University in Bhubaneswar, in September 2017. During the

year, HIC HLRN-India also participated in and spoke at several other seminars and conferences. This included the Asia regional consultation on the ongoing UN General Assembly review of UN Treaty Bodies.

As founding organization, convenor, and secretariat, HIC HLRN-India continued to provide support to the Delhi Housing Rights Task Force and the Urban Rights Forum: With the Homeless (SAM:BKS). Several collaborative and advocacy initiatives were undertaken, including with government officials and the Delhi Urban Shelter Improvement Board, to ameliorate living conditions of the homeless and marginalized, and to enable them to gain access to entitlements such as voter cards.

Through its various interventions, HIC HLRN-India has been successful in maintaining pressure on the state to meet its national and international obligations with regard to respecting, protecting, and fulfilling the human rights to adequate housing and land.



HIC HLRN India Publications in 2017

- Surviving Stigma: Housing and Land Rights of Farm Widows of Vidharba, Maharashtra (October 2017)
- From Deluge to Displacement: The Impact of Post-flood Evictions in Chennai (August 2017)
- Bengaluru's Continuing Inequity: An Eviction Impact Assessment of Ejjipura/Koramangala Four Years After its Demolition (July 2017)
- India's Smart Cities Mission: Smart for Whom? Cities for Whom? (June 2017)
- United Nations Documents Related to Housing and Land Rights in India (May 2017)

HIC HLRN India Press Releases in 2017

- 28 September 2017: HLRN Welcomes India's Acceptance of UPR III Recommendations on Housing, Land, and Sustainable Development; Calls for a Human Rights Approach to Implementation;
- 4 August 2017: Report on Post-flood Evictions and Resettlement in Chennai Released, Highlights Violations of Laws and Human Rights of Affected Communities;
- 30 June 2017: New List of 30 Smart Cities Announced Amidst Continuing Human Rights Concerns;
- 9 June 2017: Report on India's Smart Cities Mission Highlights Serious Human Rights Concerns; and,
- 1 March 2017: HLRN Commends India Mission Report of the UN Special Rapporteur on Adequate Housing[5].

[1] Endorsed by 81 organizations, the report is available at: http://hln.org.in/documents/Housing_Land_Rights_UPRIII_HLRN.pdf

[2] Available at: <http://wqhr.org/?p=1230>

[3] More information available at: <http://www.ohchr.org/EN/HRBodies/HRC/RuralAreas/Pages/WGRuralAreasIndex.aspx>

[4] Statement of the HLRN-India director is available at:

<http://www.ohchr.org/Documents/HRBodies/HRCouncil/WGPleasants/Session4/ShivanyCHAUDHRY.pdf>

[5] All press releases and publications are available at: www.hln.org.in

HIC in Sub-Saharan Africa

Nairobi was host to an intense engagement on housing rights, social justice and the right to the city which brought together HIC Members, the Global Platform for the Right to the City and a wide representation of local and regional allies.

The General Assembly of HIC, held in Nairobi on October 10, 2017, saw great participation, good spirit and excellent willingness. The Assembly was attended by 51 participants from 36 organizations and 23 countries. HIC's global struggles for social justice, gender equality, environmental sustainability, and the defence,

promotion and realization of human rights related to housing and land in both rural and urban areas were reflected in the discussions and in the daily work of HIC Members in Africa.

The Nairobi meetings also saw the launch of HIC's Human Rights Habitat Observatory (HIC HRHO). The HRHO is the culmination of the Coalition's long-standing commitment and strategy to defend and further develop universal human rights standards related to human habitat. Adding to this long standing commitment, the HRHO is an approach that responds to the new UN Sustainable Development Goals and, related to this, the New Urban Agenda, insisting on the application of the already-binding human rights obligations of states throughout the implementation of these current global policies.

The GPR2C meetings focused on the planning and implementation of the Global Action Plan by African organizations and individuals imagining and promoting a new right to the city. The GPR2C also launched a global campaign to stop forced evictions.

The gathering in Nairobi tended to focus on the many violations faced by those unable to afford rents in the tens of thousands of private multi-storey tenements rapidly spreading across the city and threatening to collapse. Displacement, dispossession and dislocation featured in many grassroots accounts.

These meetings were co-hosted by Pamoja Trust and Mazingira Institute, HIC Members represented by Steve Ouma, Davinder Lamba and Diana Lee Smith.

HIC also welcomed the participation of activists on the ground, including a large representation of South Africa's largest social movement Abahlali baseMjondolo. Among them was Sibonelo Patrick Mpeku, Chairperson of the local Sisonke Village branch, and member of Abahlali 's KwaZulu / Natal Provincial Council. He worked to defend the right of shack dwellers to basic services and political participation. Shortly after the Nairobi meetings, we learnt that Sibonelo Patrick Mpeku was killed on 19 November 2017, when he was forcibly taken from his shack and stabbed to death by unknown assailants in the informal settlement of Sisonke Village. The terrible news shook HIC Members, Friends and Allies profoundly.

(Excerpts taken from the article 'Out of Africa: Human Rights Habitat Struggles' by Marie Huchzermeyer, CUBES/Wits Univ. and Joseph Schechla, HIC HLRN, available at <http://www.hic-gs.org/articles.php?pid=7216>)



HIC in Europe

2017 has been marked by an increased trend towards conservative and protectionist European politics, but combined with a series of progressive openings at local governments. Brexit and the election of far-right groups in Italy are just some of the examples of these increased trend against migration and against the recognition of diverse needs and aspirations as well as people's right to move. On the other hand, during this year, mayors have also provided glimpses of opportunity for more democratic and rights based local governance, such as in the case of Barcelona, Paris and London. Local governments are more and more considering and trying out

instruments to intervene in market forces to address urban inequalities, such rent control, protection and expansion of council housing, and incentives towards setting up community land trusts.

HIC has been supporting the work of its members in Europe mainly through capacity building, campaigning, coordination and communication as well as research initiatives.

Capacity building initiatives included the support to the execution of Habitat Awards in [2017](#); and [2018](#); as well as participating in in the development of the Right to the City online course promoted by [Observatori DESC](#).

HIC has also supported a series of campaigns, by accompanying social processes, such in the case of the support to the petition 'Pour une vraie rénovation de Villeneuve, contre les démolitions imposées!' by the Collectif contre les démolitions à la Villeneuve, in Grenoble; or by following up and participating in the activities of a renters' union ("sindicat de llogaters") in Barcelona. Support to campaigning activities also took place through advocacy activities, which includes the intervention to the roundtable "Global Agendas: Financing Implementation" during the [third Annual Retreat & Campus of UCLG](#) and coordination of the Global Task Force; and the submission of written and oral statement on [Market Regulation and the Human Right to Adequate Housing](#) to the 34th Session of the Human Rights Council Interactive dialogue in Geneva. HIC has supported campaigns through solidarity action in support to local social collectives' claims for affordable housing in the Balearic Islands [addressing a letter to Regional and Local authorities](#) denouncing this situation. Finally, in Grenoble, local campaigns were supported by HIC's participation the roundtable 'Du Droit à la Ville au nouveau municipalisme' organized by l'Atelier Populaire d'Urbanisme (APU) with AITEC, Commonpolis, UCLG, European Alternatives and others.



HIC has supported coordination and communication activities in Europe by supporting the production and disseminating key initiatives and reports, including the publication ['Viaje al encuentro del hábitat popular en América del Sur'](#) by HIC Member Hábitat en Movimiento. HIC also coordinated and participated in the meeting with Global Platform for the Right to the City members in Barcelona. Finally, HIC organised and participated in a series of networking events, which include participation in the [Social Production of Habitat Platform Coordination Meeting](#) in Geneva; participation in the 'La Semaine de la Transition' organized by l'Atelier Populaire d'Urbanisme (APU) in Grenoble; participation in the global event ["Fearless Cities"](#) in Barcelona; participation in the global event ["European Commons Assembly"](#) in Madrid; implementation of a [survey](#) in 3 languages sent to HIC Members in Europe; and support to Observatori Desc in collection of information regarding construction of modular housing units for temporary accommodations.

In relation to research, HIC participated in an academic debate on the [Right to the City](#) at Universitat de Barcelona with Professor Juli Ponce (Universitat de Barcelona) and Professor Colin Crawford (Tulane University) in Barcelona; and collaborated with The Bartlett Development Planning Unit of University College London (UK) and the Institute for Housing and Urban Development Studies (IHS) in post-graduate dissertation projects on Habitat Rights in Europe and the role of HIC and its Members in the region.

HIC in the Middle East and North Africa

Over 2017, the MENA regional program of HIC, carried out by HLRN, has focused on strengthening the human rights-based approach of HIC Members and allies in relating to local, regional and global policies and agendas. The program's principal references are the norms of international human rights law as defined in the UN Human Rights System, including the Special Procedures of the Human Rights Council.

The regional program shares the same mission goals as the HLRN global program, directing its functions at (1) networking and coalition building, (2) knowledge creation and capacity development and (3) advocacy, especially linking the local and regional issues and partners to the global agendas and forums.

Networking and Coalition Building

In its networking and coalition-building functions, HIC-MENA program contributed to numerous civil society forums and mechanisms with HIC Members. In 2017, these featured:

- Coordinated the election and formation of the Near East/North Africa Follow-up Committee for CSO cooperation with FAO, with HLRN's Legal Researcher elected to the Committee, January;
- Cooperating with the Civil Society Mechanism (CSM) for the Committee on World Food Security (CFS) workshop to develop the new constituency of landless people, Tunis, March 2017, and follow-up with the constituency's co-coordinator, Land Research Center (Palestine);
- Contribution in a series of workshops organized by Deutsche Gesellschaft für Internationale Zusammenarbeit (GIZ) on implementing and localizing the New Urban Agenda in Egypt, April–June 2017;
- Participation in the meeting of Working Group on Land and Territory of the International Planning Committee for Food Sovereignty (IPC), Bangkok, September–October 2017, to promote the implementation of the FAO Tenure Guidelines at all levels;
- Participated in the Learning Journey on Local Solidarity Partnerships for Agroecology in Lebanon, November;
- Regular coordination with Stop the Wall Campaign (Palestine) to link with local human rights organizations in India and local governments globally to promote implementation of local authorities'/governments' extraterritorial human rights obligations in solidarity with Palestine.

Building Capacity and Creating Knowledge

Activities in 2017 involved regular research and dissemination functions, as well as specific projects carried out with partners.

Projects with HIC-HLRN Members

- Holding the third and fourth round of workshops for refugee communities, local authorities and CSOs in Lebanon toward drafting a Greater Beirut Charter to enhance the human rights in local governance in the context of the refugee and displacement crisis, June–November;
- Organization the sixth session of the regional Land Forum for MENA dedicated to local application the FAO Voluntary Guidelines on Land Tenure in MENA region, Tunisia, October;
- Operated the final phase of research and quantification of losses, costs and damages in "Land Reparations as a Contribution to Transitional Justice in Yemen," February–May;
- Participated in Al Haq Summer School, Palestine, August;
- HLRN managed Cities Alliance-supported "Sanctuary in the City: Beirut" project with Amel Association (Lebanon), throughout 2017, culminating with a local event in August 2017 to launch the "Right to the City Charter in Greater Beirut," and a presentation of findings at the Conférence mondiale sur les villes et les migrants « D'Habitat III au Pacte mondial pour la migration : le rôle des autorités locales » Mechelen, Belgium, November 2017.

Projects with other partners

- ILO commissioned HLRN coordinator to present the findings of previous Palestinian Decent Work Program evaluation and launch the new Decent Work Programme for Palestine, 2017–20 (March–May) and at the tripartite workshop at the Dead Sea, Jordan, February–March;
- With UN Office of the High Commissioner for Human Rights, UN Habitat and other practitioners in field operations, HLRN coordinator conducted two expert group meetings in Beirut (April and July) on “Housing and Property Restitution for Refugees and Displaced Persons: Implementing the Pinheiro Principles in the Middle East and North Africa.” This was followed with HLRN production of the corresponding Handbook for Implementing the Pinheiro Principles in the Middle East and North Africa (forthcoming, UN 2018);
- Stop the Wall Campaign (Palestine) cooperated with HLRN to develop global networking strategy.

Research and Publication

- Cooperation with Land Research Center in producing and distributing “Palestinian Right to Land and Housing in 2016”;
- Fact Sheet on Israeli Housing and Land Rights Violations during 2016, January;
- Published and disseminated Land Times/أحوال الأرض (Issue 15, March);
- Anatomy of ISIL Phenomenon in the Middle East, August;
- Final Report of the Sixth Session of the Land Forum in MENA, October.

Violation Database (VDB)

HIC-MENA program recorded 12 housing and land right violation cases from seven countries in the region: Egypt, Iran, Kuwait, Palestine/Israel, Sudan, Turkey and Tunisia. (See VDB, at: http://hln.org/welcome_violation.php.)

Advocacy

- HLRN communications to UN Special Rapporteurs to follow-up on the violations of the human rights to culture and on adequate housing in the Turkish military assault on in Diyarbakır, Turkey, August;
- HLRN issued communications to the Special Rapporteurs on human rights defenders, the right of peoples and individuals to international solidarity, and the right to a democratic and equitable international order in response to persecution of housing and land rights advocates in the region.
- Urgent Action Evictions in historic Diyarbakır, Turkey, May.
- Statement on “Palestine Prisoner`s Living Conditions” in support of Palestinian campaign in solidarity with the prisoners' hunger strike, May.

HIC Housing and Land Rights Network

HIC HLRN contributed to the Coalition both technically and substantively throughout 2017. With its base of registration in Geneva and coordination office in Cairo, the global efforts of HLRN and its partners remain focused on the development and monitoring of international norms related to housing and land governance, focusing especially on those defined in the UN Human Rights System.

Networking and Coalition Building

HLRN represented HIC in several CSO platforms such as the Civil Society Mechanism (CSM) for the Committee on World Food Security (CFS), at FAO in Rome. Working also with the CSM Protracted Crises Working Group since its inception in 2012, HIC HLRN contributed to monitoring the CFS policy instruments, including a call for CFS action in the face of four famines looming in the Middle East and Horn of Africa (July 2017).

HLRN also coordinated HIC participation in the International Planning Committee (IPC) for food sovereignty, which facilitates civil society cooperation and policy development with FAO. HIC's representatives to the IPC in 2017 were Christine Castro (PÓLIS Institute) and Kuria Gathuru (Kenya Green Towns Partnership Association). After Kuria's illness and untimely death in late 2017, HLRN's Joana Ricart filled in to represent HIC and the urban food insecure constituency in the IPC. (See Tribute to Kuria Gathuru in this Annual Report).

Knowledge Creation, Capacity Building and Methodology Development

HIC HLRN has consulted with HIC-GS, officers, Board, Members and allies to develop the approach called the Human Rights Habitat Observatory (see HRHO bubble in this Annual Report). One of the tests of this HRHO approach is in the development of indicators for monitoring the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs). Already in 2017, the opportunity arose to apply this approach to the SDG performance indicators related to land, which remain under development, and in the development and evaluation of National Voluntary Reviews by states reporting the High-level Political Forum at UN Headquarters every July.

At the end of 2017, HLRN began work on a new Women's Land and Home project. Designed to apply HIC HLRN's Eviction Impact Assessment (EViA)/Loss Matrix tool with HIC Members in India, Kenya and Mozambique, the project builds capacity for monitoring and documenting women's housing and land rights violations to quantify their losses, costs and damages toward full reparations for victims and deterrence of future such violations. This iteration of HIC HLRN's quantification methods seeks to develop the tools further in order to capture specific values determined by women.

In education and training opportunities in 2017, HIC HLRN was able to provide professional training and exchange information with HIC Members and allies through structured learning processes:

- Localizing FAO Voluntary Tenure Guidelines, Feb–May;
- Developed and delivered curriculum on the “right to the city” for civil society, municipalities/local authorities and refugees/displaced persons, March, May;
- Introduced HRHO and methods at seminar with local CSOs, Nairobi, May;
- Conducted Positioning for Implementation of the New Urban Agenda in Kenya: A CSO Strategy Workshop, Nairobi, July.

HIC HLRN's websites are an important means of disseminating information related to housing and land rights during the year. In 2017, HLRN mounted 145 News items (120 English, 20 Arabic, 2 French, 3 Spanish) on its website. HLRN hosted 83 new Documents online (56 English, 23 Arabic, 2 Spanish, 2 French). All entries are mounted under searchable categories consistent with Subject Groups, thematic Focus, Action types, and geographical Scope, consistent with the member-management criteria of Habitat International Coalition.

Advocacy

Since the adoption of the New Urban Agenda (NUA), HLRN has consolidated tools and strategies in the HRHO approach to advocacy, whether the objective is norm setting, implementation, monitoring, evaluation or reporting. The 2017 advocacy forums have revealed a continued retreat of states and governments from their standing obligations in favor of more voluntary mechanisms such as the Universal Periodic Review (UPR) and the High-level Political Forum (HLPF). The recent global policy instruments give perfunctory lip service to the human rights framework, but dismiss corresponding state obligations under international law, including human rights. The trend also has material consequences, with the continued decline in funding for the Human Rights Treaty System, which is marginalized further while states, media and many CSOs vesting greater political attention and other resources into the “voluntary” mechanisms.

UN Advocacy

HIC HLRN has remained consistent in grounding advocacy in people's human rights and states' corresponding obligations. Within this approach, an overview of HIC HLRN advocacy activities for 2017 included:

- Formal communication to OHCHR Treaty Body Unit and Committee on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights (CESCR) on human rights monitoring bodies leading the development of targets and indicators for the SDGs.
- Written and oral submissions to CESCR General Comment in the context of business activities.
- Contributions to NGO ad hoc working group on the forthcoming CESCR General Comment on land, and an initiative with FIAN to assert the “human right to land” in that process.
- Input to Open-ended Working Group negotiations on draft UN Declaration on the Rights of Peasants and other people working in rural areas.

- Inputs to Human Rights Council - Advisory Committee on follow-up to its 2015 study on "The Role of Local Government in the Promotion and Protection of Human Rights."
- Communications to UN Special Rapporteurs on adequate housing, cultural rights, indigenous peoples, internally displaced persons, minority issues, and the promotion and protection of human rights while countering terrorism in connection to follow-up on the violations in the Turkish military assault on Diyarbakir and other Kurdish towns in Turkey.
- Submitting a joint UPR stakeholder report for the review of Syria.

Public advocacy

During 2017, HLRN issued Urgent Action appeals with HIC Members, mobilizing support letters and follow-up on cases with local housing and land rights defenders:

- Urgent Action: Forced evictions in Buenos Aires, Argentina, March 2017 (English and Spanish).

In addition, HLRN joined several solidarity actions during the year, including:

- Appeal against Tokyo homeless eviction, Japan, March 2017;
- Mobilization Call of La Via Campesina for healthy and quality food, decent work, and a just and sustainable agricultural policy in a Europe of the People and of Solidarity, March 2017;
- Call from Brazilian civil society call against Presidential Act No.759/2016 on land regularization, Brazil, February 2017;
- Keystone Pipeline Movement solidarity with indigenous water defenders, February onward.

HLRN Global Knowledge Products

HLRN produced several analyses relevant to ongoing processes in 2017 related to global policy and habitat rights, including:

- "Gains and Losses of Habitat III," 09 July 2017;
- HLRN, "Sustainable Development Goal 6," Spotlight on Sustainable Development 2017, 10 July 2017;
- Human Rights Habitat Observatory, 9 July 2017;
- Treaty Bodies and Related Institutions: The Centrality of Human Rights Treaty Bodies to the UN Sustainable Development System, 21 August 2017;
- Commentary on the High Level Independent Panel's Report to Assess and Enhance Effectiveness of UN-Habitat, 05 September 2017;
- International sources on the concept and criteria of "landlessness"(related to CFS), December 2017;
- Continuous entries and edits to online HIC-tionary of Key Habitat Terms.

Global Activities

HIC and the Habitat Conferences 1976-2016



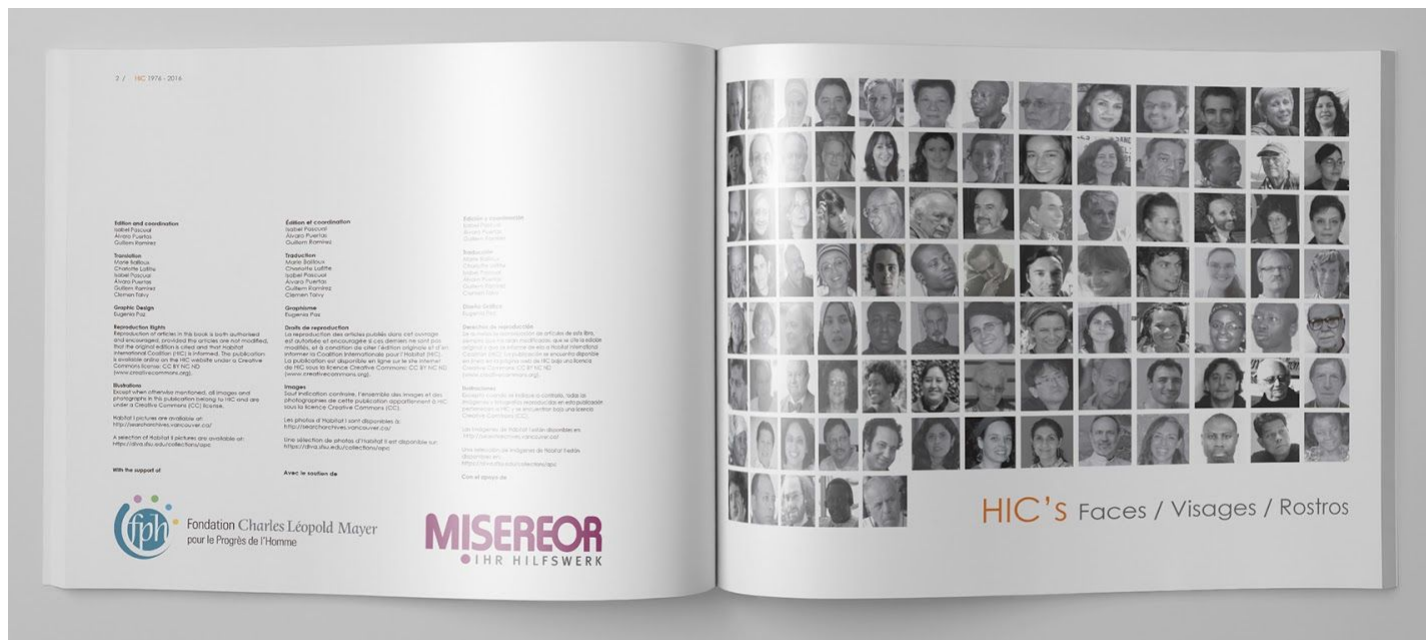
After two years of coordination with HIC Members, Wisdom Keepers and Reference Centers, and an intense translation and layout phase, the publication "[Habitat International Coalition and the Habitat Conferences 1976-2016](#)" is now available. This publication brings together the memory of 40 years of local and global struggles and HIC's experiences throughout the process of the Habitat Conferences.

This publication is a joint work that aims to serve as an inspiration for the coming years, to motivate the continuation of the fight for a habitat underpinned by human rights at local, national and international levels. In addition, it is a reflection and critique of the conference process and the role of HIC since 1976.

Through a collection of declarations, analyses, news articles, discourses, experiences and images, the publication reflects the different voices within the Coalition, from social movements and organizations to academia, researchers and experts. The final part of the publication seeks to honour people who will always be part of the HIC family, as a token of our appreciation and gratitude for their valuable work and exemplary contributions. Finally, a list is included with all the Members, Allies and Donors without whom the Coalition's fight for social transformation towards a fairer, more inclusive, democratic and sustainable world would not be possible. With this publication from HIC we also want to thank all of them for their conviction, will and tireless struggle for the right to habitat.

The fight does not end here. The 1976 –2016 period is merely one stage on a long road on which this publication reflects upon. In Quito, within the Habitat III framework, HIC, along with other social movements, civil-society organizations and community groups around the world reaffirmed its commitment to fight and advocate for the right to the city within a human rights habitat, enabling the realization of the "buen vivir" (sumak kawsay) for all. HIC should strive to achieve this irrespective of and beyond the Habitat process and governments' authorization. HIC and other groups have committed themselves to continuing the search for

real, community-based and people-centered solutions to the multiple crises facing human habitat, alongside today's youth and for future generations.



HIC and the Global Platform for the Right to the City

The Global Platform for the Right to the City (GPR2C) experienced fundamental changes during 2017. In the framework of a global Planning Process, and as one of the institutions coordinating the Ford Foundation Build grant that is funding the GPR2C, HIC has played an essential role in ensuring the consolidation of the Platform as a space for dialogue between civil society, the academic community and local governments, while sharing its long-term experience and knowledge in the components that define the Right to the City.

During the last three years since the launch of the GPR2C in 2014, the Platform has made great progress in introducing the Right to the City in the international forums. The introduction of explicit mentions to the Right to the City and many of its components in the New Urban Agenda (NUA) is probably the most visible result of that advocacy work. This was built around strong leadership, academic work, and a targeted communication campaign performed by the Platform's members through its working groups. More important than the inclusion of the term in the NUA is all the previous work that led to it, including several meetings, public events and working sessions with a large number of people from different backgrounds and regions of the world. All the knowledge from this process has been summarized in a document entitled "Global Platform for the Right to the City 2014-2016 Balance" that was distributed among the Platform's members.

In 2017 the Platform engaged in a Strategic Planning Process with the goal to consolidate all the work that was done during the previous years and to strengthen its institutional structure and governance. This process was organized through several bilateral and multilateral online meetings between the Platform's Support Team (of which HIC is a member) and the member organizations, as well as three in-person meetings in different regions of the world.

The first of the three strategic planning meetings took place in Polis Institute in Sao Paulo, Brazil in May 2017. The main focus for this meeting was the evaluation of the previous two years, the definition of the Platform's identity (mission and vision), and a preliminary debate around institutional arrangements that we could adopt to strengthen the working groups and change them as necessary. As a result, several working documents were developed and shared with the broader membership to start a dialogue towards the other two meetings.

The second meeting took place in New York City, USA in July 2017 alongside with the High-Level Political Forum. This meeting, hosted by The New School, defined a roadmap for the coming years in terms of advocacy

opportunities at the international, regional, national and local levels. It also served as an opportunity to share the takeaways from the Sao Paulo meeting with members from North America, Asia and Europe.

Finally, the third meeting was organized in Nairobi, Kenya in October 2017. This meeting took place right after the annual HIC General Assembly meeting, and it focused on the Platform's communication and research & training strategies. A Communication Plan was drafted and discussed before and during the meeting, and has been the Platform's guiding document on communication ever since. Identity, institutional strengthening, and advocacy were also discussed and agreed upon based on the previous two meetings.

Moving forward, the Platform has a clearer strategy to work towards raising awareness and recognition on the Right to the City while focusing on its implementation on the ground. Through its now 4 working groups (Advocacy, Research & Training, Communication, Gender) and regional groups (Latin America and Africa being the most active), and the leadership of the Facilitation Group (composed by the long-lasting member organizations), the GPR2C is well positioned to continue working to achieve just, inclusive, safe and sustainable cities and human settlements for all. As part of the Support Team, HIC is an instrumental partner to ensure the success of this process.

HIC Human Rights Habitat Observatory

Since the Habitat III process began, HIC has called for reviving the human rights framework and demanded that the new global human settlements development policy align with the corresponding state obligations under international law. In the follow-up of the New Urban Agenda, HIC and HLRN have consolidated the Human Rights Habitat Observatory (HRHO) to deliver that message in all the relevant forums.

HRHO is an approach that seeks the policy coherence promised in the long-term positioning of

the UN Sustainable Development System, which calls on states to uphold human rights principles and their corresponding treaty provisions in the context of development.

HRHO involves HIC Members sharing and further developing their advocacy and evaluation methodologies whereby human rights obligations, including reporting obligations under treaty, guide the implementation, monitoring, evaluation and reporting functions of civil actors.

World Day for the Right to the City: 'Stop Forced Evictions' Global Campaign

In October 2017, members, friends and allies of the Habitat International Coalition (HIC) and the Global Platform for the Right to the City (GPR2C) met in Nairobi on the occasion of the HIC General Assembly and the GPR2C strategic planning workshop.

During these meetings, it was agreed to declare 31 October of each year as the World Day for the Right to the City, reinterpreting United Nations' designation of [World Cities Day](#). To this end, [a World Day for the Right to the City global call](#) was drafted, which included an absolute rejection of evictions and forced displacements that have a dramatic impact on urban and rural communities. This call presented 27 cases from all regions of the world and was signed by 42 organizations worldwide.

At the Habitat III conference, 197 states approved the New Urban Agenda, where they reaffirmed their commitment to prevent arbitrary evictions and forced displacements and to provide adequate and decent rehousing[1]. States also recognized the social role of property and land in cities and human settlements, a fundamental component of the right to the city[2]. However, despite these commitments, these grave violations continue to occur around the world.

Forced evictions are a serious violation of legally recognized human rights. According to international standards and commitments, such as General Comments 4 and 7, local and national governments must i) take preventive measures; ii) ensure adequate protection; and iii) ensure that all human rights are safeguarded before, during and after evictions.

Forced evictions threaten a dignified and peaceful life and cause terror and suffering to the most disadvantaged, with devastating consequences for children and women[3].

The call included three main aspects:

i) States were called upon to respect their commitments in global agendas and human rights treaties, to guarantee the social function of land and property, to implement the right to the city and to prevent and remedy forced evictions as a matter of urgency.

ii) Solidarity was expressed with those facing forced evictions, displacement and loss of homes, land and livelihoods.

iii) The signatories committed themselves to work together to denounce and stop forced evictions, supporting the affected communities, and to get organized to defend their territories and ways of life.

Stop Forced Evictions and Displacements!

Right to the City for All!

[1] The right to adequate housing (Art.11.1): forced evictions : 20/05/97. CESCR General comment 7

[2] New Urban Agenda, pars 31, 107 and 111.

[3] idem, par. 13 a)

Utopias under construction. Latin American experiences of social production of habitat

After the last three years coordination in the framework of the regional working group on Social Production of Habitat (SPH), a group made up of more than 30 organizations from 17 countries that have met in person on three occasions, launched the latest collective publication on this issue. SPH is a very relevant topic to the Member and Allies of HIC in Latin America.

From its inception, the working group's objectives included "documenting, making visible, defending and strengthening the contributions and transformative experiences carried out by Latin American urban and rural organizations and communities, in the fields of production and social management of habitat, as a tool aimed at satisfying the human right to housing of low-income people, with the aim of influencing laws, regulations, plans, programs, public policies and budgets at the local and national levels, as well as regional and international advocacy". To this end, a form was disseminated focusing on identifying processes that have been capable of managing the complex dimensions of the rural territory and the urban habitat in which they operate; that include multiple actors, fields of intervention and methodologies; that at the same time strengthen their autonomy and their capacity to influence public policies; that favour the democratic control of production and management processes, thus developing new cultures of solidarity and responsibility; and finally that make significant contributions and transformations both to the policies and practices of public institutions and to the practices developed by the organizations and communities with which they interact.

The book introduction states that the publication, available on the HIC-AL website, was a step forward in relation to previous systematization initiatives, as this one emphasizes the territorial scope of the documented processes. The result is surprising: the 30 experiences described involve more than 60,000 families who have transformed their living conditions through projects as diverse as housing cooperatives and associations, savings banks, the implementation of eco-techniques in rural contexts, neighbourhood improvement programmes, post-disaster reconstruction projects, as well as others. More than ever, the SPH is presented as an alternative and viable process to the model of housing controlled by private capital and market rules, but also to the model developed by the State, which has transformed social housing into a "turnkey procurement" scheme, which does not contemplate the participation of the inhabitants and which often does not guarantee adequate housing either. The SPH processes, on the other hand, offer the opportunity to build community, to try self-management and eventually to propose collective property and thus defend with greater forcefulness the popular territories from the onslaught of the market. Moreover, for millions of people, this is an alternative (sometimes the only one) to fulfil a fundamental social right such as the right to adequate

housing. The experiences presented here not only provide solutions to the housing problem, but they also feature a series of transforming social, economic, cultural and environmental practices. Some have been able to resist and multiply even beyond the countries in which they were originally developed, creating important political incidence that manage to influence the legal and normative frameworks and give way to new experiences; others have been innovative in relation to participation and the development of tools for the defence of the territories; others have opened the dialogue between different groups to advance in the definition of a new intercultural society that recognizes and pursues the diversity of knowledge associated with construction, agriculture and social organizations. All of them seek to guarantee the integral fulfilment of human rights and incorporate gender issues transversally, strengthen the local economy and test innovative proposals capable of combating climate change and conserving common goods. In short, these are "utopian" projects because their promoters strive day after day to build what seems impossible within the conditions of the capitalist system. They produce spaces of hope where collective interest, care for nature, solidarity and good living prevail.

HIC HLRN Violations Database

HIC HLRN Violations Database (VDB) is an interactive and participatory website feature for documenting and reviewing the world's most-common housing and land rights violations. The VDB offers a simplified method for managing data about violations arising from actual cases. The VDB will track violations, corresponding losses and proposed solutions in cases of (1) forced evictions, (2) demolitions/destructions, (3) dispossession/confiscation, and (4) Privatization of public goods and services.

Unfortunately 2017 ended with a perturbing record of 1.386.586 affected persons in over 20 countries.

Title	Date	Country	Affected Persons
Kahda IDP Homes	29 December 2017	Somalia	29.000
Inmigrantes en Santiago	26 December 2017	Chile	99
143 structures	04 December 2017	Palestine	654
Lendu-Hema Land Conflict	01 December 2017	Democratic Republic of Congo	148.000
El Arrayán	24 October 2017	Chile	40
Villa Dulce	12 October 2017	Chile	30
Cato Manor	02 October 2017	South Africa	6.000
al-Thahiriyeh	16 September 2017	Palestine	5
6 Land Defenders Dead	07 September 2017	Peru	6
نهب أراضي النيل الأبيض	04 September 2017	Sudan	?
Balmaceda de Antofagasta	01 September 2017	Chile	4.500
Rome Refugees	25 August 2017	Italy	800
Loliondo Maasai	13 August 2017	Tanzania	2.000
Fattis Mansions	19 July 2017	South Africa	257
مخيم الشوشة	19 June 2017	Tunisia	200
Land Confiscation	15 June 2017	Iran	?
Otodo-Gbame (Lagos)	15 June 2017	Nigeria	4.000
Warraq Island	07 June 2017	Egypt	90.000
al-Araqib	18 May 2017	Palestine/Israel	100
Land Grabbing in Aswan	07 May 2017	Egypt	?
Kurds Evicted Forcibly	29 April 2017	Turkey	10.000
Homeless in Otodo Gbame	10 April 2017	Nigeria	4.700
Fishermen Evicted	01 April 2017	Kuwait	4.000
Khallat al-Qutin	01 April 2017	Palestine	35
Kasai Million	01 April 2017	Democratic Republic of Congo	1.000.000
تدمير أراضي النقب	15 March 2017	Palestine	0
Cejl Street, Brno	01 March 2017	Czech Republic	200
More systematic land Grabbing	06 February 2017	Palestine	?
Ladipo Marke Demolished	03 February 2017	Nigeria	150
143 Palestinian Homes Razed	31 January 2017	Palestine	3.000
Awamiya	30 January 2017	Saudi Arabia	25.000
3 Dead in Umm al-Hiran	18 January 2017	Palestine/Israel	20
Christian families	17 January 2017	Mexico	2.500
Qalansuwa	10 January 2017	Palestine/Israel	55
Toxins over Gaza Land	07 January 2017	Palestine	?
IOFTargets Fishermen, Farmers	04 January 2017	Palestine	4.500

<u>هدم منشآت سكنية وزراعية</u>	01 January 2017	Palestine	20
<u>Jan 2017</u>	01 January 2017	Palestine	715
<u>Beijing Migrant Workers</u>	01 January 2017	China	20.000
Total no. of records: 39			Total 1.360.586

HIC Africa Board Members Elections

The preparation of the electoral process of Africa Representative to the HIC Board was an ongoing during 2017 as only 5 Members had a right to vote, out of 171 registered African organizations shown in the database, which correspond to less than 3% of the total. A complete revision and update of all the registers of African Members was operated previously by the Nairobi General Assembly, for election and reactivation purposes. This activity led

to the participation of 37 HIC African HIC Members at the GA from which 13 had the right to vote on that day. The 2017 year end with a database showing 71 Members in Africa, from which more than 18% were in good standing, allowing the start of a healthy Election process that could then be launched and successfully realized in 2018.

HIC North America Members Elections

After receiving the formal notice of resignation of the HIC North America Representative at the Board, the election process was launched in March 2017 and successfully ended in July 2017. Only one candidate was nominated to run for the position. As defined by the Electoral Committee, the roster contained 9 Members. 6 valid votes were received for Mr. Stéphan Corriveau, CHRA, Canada, representing a reaching a 67% of quorum.



















The Electoral Committee certified the validity of this electoral process, as described in the Guidelines for electoral processes. According to these results, Mr. Stéphan Corriveau was elected as Representative for North America at the HIC Board for the period 2017-2021. No Alternate was elected.

HIC Allies

HIC advocated before these international Forums in 2017

 Advisory Committee of the UN Human Rights Council	 Committee on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights (CESCR)	 Committee on Global Food Security (CFS)	 Committee on the Inalienable Rights of the Palestinian People (CEIRPP)
 Governing Council of UN Habitat	 Human Rights Council (OHCHR)	 Universal Periodic Review – UN Human Rights Council	



































HIC cooperated with these multilateral organizations in 2017








 Committee on the Elimination of Racial Discrimination (CERD)	 Committee on NGOs, Department of Social and Economic Affairs NGO Branch, ECOSOC	 Economic and Social Commission for Western Asia (ESCWA)	 Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean (ECLAC)
 Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO)	 Independent International Commission of Inquiry on the Syrian Arab Republic	 Inter-American Commission on Human Rights (IACHR)	 International Labour Organization (ILO)
 International Organization for Migration (IOM)	 Office of the High Commissioner for Human Rights (OHCHR)	 Partnerships for the SDGs – UN Department of Social and Economic Affairs (UNDESA)	 UN Department of Global Communications – NGO Branch (UN DPI NGO)
 UN Development Programme (UNDP)	 UN Environment Programme (UNEP)	 UN-Habitat	 United Nations Department of Political and Peacebuilding Affairs (DPPA)
 United Nations Division for Palestinian Rights (DPA)	 United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR)		

HIC Funders in 2017

 Cities Alliance	 Fondation Charles Léopold Mayer pour le Progrès de l'Homme	 Ford Foundation	 MISEREOR
 United States Institute of Peace	 Wellspring Philanthropic Fund		











































HIC International Allies


































 Accountability Counsel	 Action Aid	 Action Group on Erosion, Technology and Concentration (ETC Group)	 Ahwaz Human Rights Organization
 All Together in Diversity - Fourth World	 Association for One Democratic State	 Association of International Dalit Solidarity	 Bahai International
 Bank Information Center	 Center for Economic and Social Rights	 Centre Europe – Tiers Monde	 Centre Kurde des Droits de l'Homme
 Civil Society Mechanism (CSM) for the Committee on World Food Security (CFS)	 Coalition for the International Criminal Court	 Commission Amazigh Internationale pour le Développement et les Droits de l'Homme	 Congrès Mondial Amazigh
 Displacement Research and Action Network, Massachusetts Institute of Technology	 Ecumenical Advocacy Alliance	 Extraterritorial Obligations (ETO) Consortium	 Food First Information and Action Network
 Forest Peoples Programme	 Foro de Autoridades Locales	 France Libertés - Fondation Danielle Mitterrand	 Franciscans International
 Friends of the Earth	 Global Convergence of Land and Water Struacales	 Global Initiative on ESC Rights	 Global Land Alliance
 Global Land Tool Network	 Global Platform for the Right to the City	 Global Policy Forum	 Global Rights, Rules and Responsibilities
 Habitat for Humanity International	 Huairou Commission	 Independent Diplomat	 Internal Displacement Monitoring Center
 International Accountability Project	 International Alliance of Inhabitants	 International Commission of Jurists	 International Indian Treaty Council
 International Network for Economic, Social and Cultural Rights	 International Planning Committee for Food Sovereignty	 International Rivers Network	 International Trade Union Confederation
 International Union of Tenants	 Landesa	 Major Group for Children and Youth	 Major Groups and Other Stakeholders HLPF Coordination Mechanism

	Milan Urban Food Policy Pact		Minority Rights Group International		NGO Major Group		Nonviolence International
	Norwegian Refugee Council		No-Vox		Oakland Institute		Organisation de la Femme du Secteur Agricole et Forestier
	Oxfam International		Palestine Land Society		Palestine Return Centre		People's Health Movement
	Peoples Movement for Human Rights Education		Radio Monte Carlo		Right of Return Coalition		Right to Food and Nutrition Watch
	RIPES - Intercontinental Network for the Promotion of Social Solidarity Economy		Social Watch		Society for International Development		TECHO Internacional
	The Global Network on Disability Inclusive and Accessible Urban Development		Transnational Institute		Transparency International		Union of Indigenous Nomadic Tribes of Iran
	United Cities and Local Governments - Ciudades y Gobiernos Locales Unidos		Unrepresented Nations and Peoples Organization		Urban Social Forum		URGENCI The International Network for Community-supported
	WaterAid		Western Sahara Resources Watch		Women in Informal Employment: Globalizing and Organizing		Women's Major Group
	World Alliance of Mobile Indigenous Peoples		World Enabled		World Forum of Fisher Peoples		World March of Women
	World Social Forum (WSF): International Council (IC)						

HIC Regional and/or National Allies

	Actions pour les Droits, l'Environnement et la Vie		no logo		Alto Comisionado de Naciones Unidas para los Derechos Humanos México		Amel Association, House of Human Rights
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no logo	Appropriate Development, Architectural and Planning Technologies		Arab Group for the Protection of Nature		Arab Network for Food Sovereignty		Arab NGO Network for Development
	Area metropolitana de Barcelona		Asia Peasant Coalition		Asian Commission for Human Rights		Asociación Americana de Juristas
no logo	Association for the Presence of Human Security	no logo	Association of Iranian Women for Sustainable Development		Association Torba: Association pour le maintien d'une agriculture Paysanne		Association Tunisienne des Femmes Démocrates
	ATTAC-Maroc		Center of Arab Women for Training and Research		Centre d'Etudes et de Formation Populaires pour les Droits de l'Homme		Centro de Derechos Humanos Fray Francisco de Vitoria
	Civil Litigation Clinic, Boston University		Coalición de Organizaciones Mexicanas por el Derecho al Agua	no logo	Committee of Lebanese Disabled Persons		Defensoría del Pueblo de la Ciudad Autónoma de Buenos Aires
no logo	Egypt's Urban Research Collective		Ekta Parishad		Espacio de Coordinación de Organizaciones Civiles sobre DESC		European Action Coalition for the Right to Housing and to the City
	European Coordination of Committees and Associations for Palestine		Fédération Nationale du Secteur Agricole		Foro de Autoridades Locales por la Inclusión Social y la Democracia Participativa		Fórum Nacional de Reforma Urbana do Brasil
no logo	General Union of Arab Peasants and Agricultural Cooperatives		Geneva Academy of International Humanitarian Law and Human Rights		German Advisory Council on Global Change		Global Freedom of Expression, Columbia University
	Graduate Institute of International Studies		Habitar Argentina		Hebron Rehabilitation Committee		Institute for Policy Studies
	Instituto Mexicano para el Desarrollo Comunitario		International Women's Rights Action Watch - Asia Pacific		Kenya Human Rights Commission		Kota Kita
	Latin American Association of Promotion		Mercociudades		Movimento dos Trabalhadores Rurais Sem Terra		Movimiento Mexicano de Afectados por las
	Movimiento Urbano Popular de la Convención Nacional Democrática		Nairobi and Environs Food Security Agriculture and Livestock Forum		Nairobi People Settlements Network		National Center for Peace and Development

	National IDPs Network		OXFAM México		Pensadoras Urbanas		Plataforma de Afectados por la Hipoteca
	Plataforma Interamericana Derechos Humanos, Democracia y Desarrollo		Plataforma mesoamericana de productores sociales de vivienda sustentable		Public Works Studio		Red de Mujeres Iberoamericanas
	Red Mujer y Habitat	no logo	Red Nacional de Productores Sociales de Vivienda		Refugee Studies Centre, University of Oxford	no logo	Réseau Algérien des Associations de la Pêche Artisanale
	RESURJ: Realizing Sexual and Reproductive Justice		Sahrawi Natural Resources Watch		Secretaría Latinoamericana de Vivienda Popular		Servicios para una Educación Alternativa
	Servicios y Asesoría para la Paz A.C.		Social and Economic Rights Action Centre		Social and Economic Rights Institute of South Africa		Stop the Wall Campaign
	Syndicat Tunisien des Agriculteurs		Tadamun: The Cairo Urban Solidarity Initiative		Takween Integrated Community		Tamkeen - Makaanah Association
	Teachers Creativity Center		Terre & Humanisme		The Schools of Public Engagement - The New School		Tibet Bureau
no logo	Transparency Forum / Land Reparations Project		UN Economic Commission for Africa (UNECA)		UN Economic Commission for Europe (UNECE)		Union Générale Tunisienne du Travail
	Union of Agricultural Workers Committees	no logo	Union of Palestinian Municipalities		Université d'Alger, Faculté du Droit		Urban Reform Coalition
	Urgence Palestine						

HIC Financial Statement 2017

Following the recommendation of its Donors, HIC changed some of its Auditors in 2017. This change has delayed the 2017 Audits and the publication of the HIC Financial Statement. This information will be published on HIC's website, and the Annual Report will be updated as soon as the auditing is finished.

Contact details

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<p>HIC General Secretariat Coordination Office Barcelona</p> <p>HIC GS www.hic-net.org www.hic-gs.org gs@hic-net.org</p>	<p>HIC Housing and Land Rights Network Coordination Office Cairo</p> <p>HIC HLRN www.hlrn.org hlrn@hlrn.org</p>			

Habitat International Coalition - HIC



HIC is the global network for rights related to habitat and social justice.

Through solidarity, networking and support for social movements and organizations, HIC struggles for social justice, gender equality, and environmental sustainability, and works in the defence, promotion and realization of human rights related to housing and land in both rural and urban areas.



Habitat International Coalition

For more information on HIC and its centers of reference, please refer to the following websites

HIC-Latin America

Coordination Office, Ciudad de México - HIC AL

www.hic-al.org

hic-al@hic-al.org

HIC Middle East and North Africa

Coordination Office, Cairo - HIC MENA

www.hic-mena.org

hic-mena@hic-mena.org

HIC Sub-Saharan Africa

Focal Point, Cotonou - HIC SSA (Benin)

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HIC Sub-Saharan Africa

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HIC General Secretariat

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HIC Housing and Land Rights Network

Coordination Office, Cairo - HIC HLRN

www.hlrn.org

hlrn@hlrn.org



Social Networks



Facebook

www.facebook.com/habitatinternationalcoalition



Twitter

[@habitat_intl](https://twitter.com/@habitat_intl)



HIC Video Channel

www.youtube.com - Habitat International Coalition



HIC photo gallery

<https://photos.app.goo.gl/7wqUAQQuomBGn8HX8>

