## Contents

**Message from HIC President** | 3  
**The Coalition** | 5  
**HIC in the world** | 5  
**HIC’s Members per region and country** | 6  
**Welcome to our new Members 2021** | 9  
**HIC Global Data** | 10  
**HIC Faces** | 11  
**HIC Remembers** | 12  
**HIC Structures’ Reports** | 14  
  - HIC Presidency | 14  
  - HIC General Secretariat | 16  
  - HIC in Latin America and the Caribbean | 17  
  - HIC in Sub-Saharan Africa | 18  
  - HIC in the Middle East and North Africa | 19  
  - HIC Housing and Land Rights Network | 20  
  - HIC in Europe | 21  
  - HIC in North America | 21  
  - 2020 HIC General Assembly | 22  
  - Second Dialogue between Civil Society, Local Governments and N Special Rapporteurs | 22  
  - International Women’s Day 2021 | 22  
**Global Activities** | 22  
  - Towards Adherence to Human Rights and the Right to the City | 23  
  - Learning from and across African Cities: Emancipatory pedagogies for transformative change | 23  
  - Women and Habitat Africa Working Group | 24  
  - HIC’s Priorities at the 2021 UN HLPF | 24  
  - Fearless and Transformative Cities: Housing stories from the ground | 25  
  - HIC Co-Learning Spaces | 25  
  - Another City is Possible: The 2021 Urban Social Forum | 25  
  - Urban October 2021: Climate justice is a habitat right | 26  
  - Takeaways from COP26: climate justice with a human rights framework | 27  
  - HIC General Assembly 2021 | 27  
**HIC Allies** | 28
In 2021 we celebrated 45 years in the life of HIC! We took the opportunity to reflect and think about what comes next as a Coalition. We did so at a crucial moment in history. The struggles that inspired the creation of HIC 45 years ago are still highly relevant, while we face new challenges: COVID-19 pandemic, the climate emergency, the resurgence and persistent of patriarchy and racism under new guises, and the hyper-financialisation of housing and land. HIC’s mission and vision are more relevant today than ever, urging us to be united, strategic, and bold in our fight for a better world.

2021 has also been a very sad year, as we lost and mourned four dear and valuable comrades, Malick Gaye, Executive Director of ENDA RUP (Senegal); Paul Maquet Makedonski, Founder and Director of CENCA (Peru); Katharine Coit, Association Internationale de Techniciens, Experts et Chercheurs (AITEC) and Urbanisme et Démocratie (UDE) (France), and Abu Rayhan Al Beeroonee (Bangladesh), Chairperson of Shelter for the Poor. They all leave behind a massive legacy, valuable teachings and a history of deep solidarity and commitment to the most disadvantaged. You can see HIC’s tribute here and on p.12 of this report.

Throughout the year, ten new Members joined HIC from Ecuador, Argentina, DRC, Kenya, India, Palestine, and the United Kingdom. A warm welcome to all!

Internally, we have initiated HIC’s first Institutional Review to grow together from our differences, to honour our legacy while making room for renewal, to strengthen our Coalition across all regions, and to sharpen the focus of our work and impact across HIC’s four thematic pillars. At our General Assembly in February 2021, one of the main requests from HIC Members was to strengthen our cross-regional interaction, through collective spaces for political reflection, learning, mobilization and advocacy. Since then, HIC-GS, HIC-AL and HLRN joined forces on a global project with Knowledge in Action for Urban Equality (KNOW) and other funders to launch three co-learning spaces on Feminist Approaches to Habitat, Land Rights and Multi-level Advocacy. See the President and GS reports for more.

We continued working tirelessly to reframe mainstream business-as-usual discourses that perpetuate injustices. While most UN organisations continued to advocate for recovery measures to ‘bounce back’ from the pandemic, our message has been clear: the challenge confronting us is not just about ‘building back better’ but to take this historical juncture as a critical turning point to address the long-overdue structural challenges that have been made evident throughout this health crisis. In doing so, we continued working across HIC’s four thematic pillars:

With regards to housing and land rights, we engaged in dialogue with several UN Special Rapporteurs, fostering an exchange across mandates most relevant to the defence of human rights related to habitat, and continued to work closely with the Special Rapporteur on the Right to Adequate Housing on recognising housing as a key component of the right to an adequate standard of living, and on the right to non-discrimination.

We continued to work with urban and rural communities to prevent evictions and propose moratoriums, systematise the violations they imply, concretise the right to housing through the social production of habitat and bring cases of housing rights violations before the courts. We also supported Members’ initiatives in their own countries, pushing for the recognition of the right to adequate housing in Peru’s Constitution, and for legal and policy changes in Spain and Zimbabwe, among others.

In relation to the social production of habitat, HIC continued to champion multiple initiatives to forge State recognition of and legal and financial support to popular processes. We did so through regional campaigns for human settlements upgrading and consolidation and the development of key capacities in participatory habitat design processes to support women and men’s protagonism in claiming their rights through autogestion.

In relation to habitat and environment, the UN Human Rights Council adopted a landmark resolution (HRC resolution 48/13) in October 2021, recognizing, for the first time, the human right to a clean, healthy, and sustainable environment. As the climate emergency’s devastating consequences continue to play out globally, our advocacy underscored the centrality of habitat-
related human rights to climate change adaptation, mitigation and loss and damage policies and funding mechanisms. In 2021 we advocated for climate justice to be treated and recognised as a human right related to habitat, through a series of actions: a manifesto, contributions from Members and an online event to articulate and reinforce a reading of what happened after COP26.

Our focus on habitat and gender equality remained core across our advocacy work, as we continued to advocate for a feminist perspective and the centrality of care to support all habitat-related rights. Milestones included the publication of Feminism in Loud Voice situating gender equality at the core of housing justice, and calling for equality in diversity through our Habitat Voices Manifesto, in particular dismantling systemic racism and racial discrimination.

Our work and achievements were possible thanks to the support of MISEREOR and the Catalan Agency for Development Cooperation (ACCD), who beyond their role as funders acted as HIC partners in collective analysis and reflection.

As expressed in the introduction to HIC 2020 Annual Report, the work you all do as part of our Coalition and in your own contexts and regions is critical to build a more equitable, inclusive, sustainable, and loving world for all. On behalf of the HIC Board, the General Secretariat and HIC’s regional and thematic reference centres, I thank you for being an active part of HIC and for your endless energy, commitment, passion, and strategic thinking in defence of habitat-related human rights and the right to the city. The following pages are a testimony of our collective force and achievements as a Coalition throughout 2021.

In solidarity,

Adriana Allen
HIC President
The Coalition

Habitat International Coalition (HIC) is the global, independent, and non-profit network for the defence, promotion and realisation of human rights related to habitat and for the defence, promotion and realisation of the right to a safe place to live in peace and with dignity, both in urban and rural areas.

Through solidarity, networking and support for social movements and organisations, and influencing public policies and the international agenda, HIC works to develop and fulfill transformative practices, norms and standards as a means to achieve social justice and improve living conditions across four main areas of HIC Member competence: gender equality and equity; sustainable environment; social production of habitat; and human rights related to habitat, in particular housing and land rights. HIC operates within UN bodies as a nongovernmental organization in consultative status with UN-ECOSOC (since 1993).

HIC is composed of various policy, thematic and regional structures including the General Assembly, the HIC Board, HIC Wisdom Keepers, the General Secretariat, Reference Centres including HIC regional offices and thematic networks, Focal points and HIC Allies and like-minded institutions.

Strategies to achieve the Coalition’s objectives:

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

At the moment of the publication of this report, the Coalition had 365 Members (of which 69 have the right to vote) and 224 Friends. In addition, 1,833 organizations and individuals formed the HIC Social Base. The figures below present the geographic distribution of HIC Members, Friends and the Social Base:
### HIC’s Members per region and country

#### Africa / 77

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Country</th>
<th>Members</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Angola</td>
<td>Development Workshop - Angola</td>
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<tr>
<td>Benin</td>
<td>ONG BETHESDA/Département</td>
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<tr>
<td>Burkina Faso</td>
<td>Centre Régional pour l’Eau Potable et l’Assainissement</td>
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<tr>
<td>Botswana</td>
<td>Coalition Nationale pour l’Habitat</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Cooperation for Research, Development and Education</td>
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<tr>
<td>Burkina Faso</td>
<td>Centre Regional pour l’Eau Potable et l’Assainissement</td>
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<tr>
<td>Cameroon</td>
<td>Association des Amoureux du Livre</td>
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<td>ASSOAL</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Coalition des ONG et OCB du Cameroun</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Oeuvrant dans le Domaine des Établissements Humains</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Collectif Interafrikan des Habitants</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Comité de Développement Intégré de Kouabang - Ganouougoun</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Comité Diocésain des Activités Sociales et Caritas de l’Archidiocèse de</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Douala</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Fondation des Femmes Actives Pour la Promotion de L’Éducation de la Femm</td>
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<td>e de l’Enfant</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Humanitas Solidaris</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Femmes Rurales Amies de la Paix et du Développement</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Réseau National des Habitants du Cameroun</td>
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<tr>
<td>Congo - Democratic</td>
<td>Association d’appui aux conducteurs de chariots du Congo</td>
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<tr>
<td>Republic of the</td>
<td>Groupe d’Action pour le Droit</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Association d’appui aux conducteurs de chariots du Congo</td>
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<td>Ethiopia</td>
<td>Integrated Holistic Approach Urban Development Programme</td>
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<td>Guinea</td>
<td>Acteurs Pour Habitat</td>
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<td>Ivory Coast</td>
<td>Femmes Côte d’Ivoire Expérience</td>
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<td>Kenya</td>
<td>Association for the Physically Disable of Kenya</td>
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<td>Dajopen Waste Management Project</td>
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<td>Eastern Africa Coalition on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights</td>
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<td>Kenya Social Movement Network</td>
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<td>KITUO Cha Sheria (Legal Advice Centre)</td>
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<td>Mazingira Institute</td>
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<td>National Cooperative Housing Union Ltd</td>
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<td>Pamoja Trust</td>
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<td>Shift 4 Change</td>
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<td>Young Muslim Association</td>
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<td>Mali</td>
<td>Association Action Solidarité Couches</td>
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<td>Association Féminine des Femmes de Magnambougou</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Association pour le Progrès et la Défense des Droits des Femmes/Filles</td>
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<td>Coopérative Féminine pour la Protection de l’Environnement</td>
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<td>Coopérative Multifonctionnelle des Femmes de Badialam III</td>
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<td>Coopérative Multifonctionnelle des Femmes de Magranbogon</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Fonds de Garantie Hypothécaire GIE Foulani-Service</td>
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<td>Groupement d’Intérêt Économique GIE SANYA</td>
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<td>Mauritius</td>
<td>Development Indian Ocean Network</td>
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<tr>
<td>Namibia</td>
<td>Namibia Housing Action Group</td>
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<td>Niger</td>
<td>Contribution au Développement Rural</td>
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<td>Réseau des Femmes Habitanteres</td>
<td>Centre for Advancement of Development Rights</td>
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<tr>
<td>Nigeria</td>
<td>Centre for African Settlements Studies and Development</td>
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<td>Community Conservation &amp; Development Initiatives</td>
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<td>Development Initiatives Network</td>
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<td>Female Architects of Nigeria</td>
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<td>Initiative for the Support and Promotion of Human Shelter</td>
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<td>Lagos Group for the Study of Human Settlements</td>
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<td>Nigerian Environmental Study/Action Team</td>
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<td>Social and Economic Rights Initiative</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Women Environmental Programme</td>
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<td>Women in Development &amp; Environment</td>
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<td>Women Protection Organization</td>
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<td>Senegal</td>
<td>Association d’aide sanitaire aux plus démunis</td>
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<td>Association de Développement de Jeunes d’Ousouge</td>
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<td>Environnement et Développement du Tiers-Monde</td>
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<td>Habitants et Travailleurs Baraka</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Initiative pour le développement communautaire intégré</td>
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<td>Solidarité Internationale pour la Promotion de l’Habitat Social</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Stratégies Alternatives pour un Habitat et un Environnement Élargis</td>
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<td>South Africa</td>
<td>Built Environment Support Group</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Centre for Urbanism and Built Environment Studies - University of Witwattersand</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Development Action Group</td>
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<td>PLANACT</td>
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<td>The New Housing Company-S.A</td>
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<td>Tanzania</td>
<td>Habitat for Humanity of Tanzania</td>
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<td>Women Advancement Trust</td>
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<td>Togo</td>
<td>Centre de Recherches Concertées sur le Développement</td>
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<td>Uganda</td>
<td>Grassroots Women Development Organisation</td>
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<td>Shelter and Settlements Alternatives: Uganda Human Settlements Network</td>
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<td>Social Peace Initiative for Sudan</td>
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<td>Zambia</td>
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<td>Civic Forum on Housing and Habitat</td>
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<td>Mizhipa Housing Cooperative Society</td>
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<td>Community Alliance for Human Settlements in Zimbabwe</td>
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<td>Zimbabwe People’s Land Rights Movement</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Housing People of Zimbabwe</td>
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</table>

#### Asia and Oceania / 39

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Country</th>
<th>Members</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Afghanistan</td>
<td>Agency of Consultancy for Training</td>
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<td>Australia</td>
<td>Australian Council of Social Service</td>
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<td>Azerbaijan</td>
<td>Azerbaijan Women and Development Centre</td>
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<td>Bangladesh</td>
<td>Dustha Shasthya Kendra</td>
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<td>Shelter for the Poor</td>
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<td>Hong Kong</td>
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<td>Society for Community Organization</td>
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<td>India</td>
<td>ActionAid India/Citizens’ Rights</td>
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<td>Collective</td>
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<td>Ahmedabad Study Action Group</td>
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<td>Association for Voluntary Action and Services</td>
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<td>Christian Institute for the Study of Religion and Society</td>
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<td>Community Development Information and Action Group</td>
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<td>Development Alternatives</td>
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<td>Grameena Empowerment Mission Society</td>
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</tbody>
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*Note: The above list is an extract and does not include all members of HIC's members per region and country.*
Europe / 57

Belgium
ASBL Habitat et Participation
Periferia
Post Graduate Centre
Vlaams Overleg Bewonersbelangen

Denmark
Foreign Student Department of School of Architecture
The Royal Danish Academy of Fine Arts, Dept. of Human Settlements

France
Action Nord Sud
Association Droit Au Logement
Association International de Techniciens, Experts et Chercheurs
Atelier Temenos Sanghatane
Centre de Recherche et d’Application Terre - América Latina
Confédération Générale du Logement

Germany
Deutsche Entwicklungshilfe Für Soziales Wohnungs-UND
Habitat Netz
TRIALOG e.V.

Italy
Unione Inquilini
Montenegro
Association for Democratic Prosperity - Zid

Netherlands
AQN Consult
Arcilla Research
Institute for Housing and Urban Development Studies
International Council for Building Research Studies & Documentation
International Society of City and Regional Planners

Norway
Habitat Norway

Russia
Community Development Center
CITIZEN FOUNDATION
International Association
Russian Housing Federation

Spain
Alternativas Sostenibles de Desarrollo Arquitectos sin Frontera - España
Asociación Al-Gea
Club de Amigos de la UNESCO de Madrid
Engineering Sense Fronteras Catalunya
Observatori DESC
Plataforma Hábitat España

Sweden
ARC Peace International, Architects, Designers, Planners for Social Responsibility KTH
Housing Development and Management International Union of Tenants

Switzerland
International Network for Urban Research and Action
Laboratoire de Sociologie Urbaine
UrbaMonde

United Kingdom
Homeless International
Housing Policy and Practice Unit
Institute of Advanced Architectural Studies
Intermediate Technology Development Group Schumacher Centre for Technology and Development
International Affairs Officer, Board of
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 à Autogestão Popular
Centro de Defesa e Promoção dos Direitos Humanos da Arquidiocese de Fortaleza
Centro Gaspar García de Direitos Humanos
Confederação de Direitos Humanos
Centro de Promoción y Investiguación de Desarrollo de la Vivienda Popular

**Ecuador**
Asociación Cristiana de Jóvenes del Ecuador
Centro de Estudios y Tecnología para Asentamientos Andinos
Centro de Investigaciones CIUDAD
Corporación CIVITIC, Red Universitaria de Estudios Urbanos de Ecuador
Corporación de Estudios Regionales - Guayaquil
Foro Urbano
Federación de Asociaciones de Viviendas de Ecuador
Foro Popular

**El Salvador**
Coordinadora Centroamericana
Autogestionaria de la Vivienda Solidaria
Federación Salvadoreña de Desarrollo y Vivienda Mínima

**Guatemala**
Asociación para el Mejoramiento Habitacional de Guatemala
Asociación de Asociaciones de Usuarias de la Vivienda y Acción Social
Instituto para el Desarrollo Económico y Social de América Latina

**Honduras**
Instituto para la Cooperación y Autodesarrollo

**Jamaica**
Construction Resource & Development Centre Ltd.
Habitat for Humanity, Jamaica LTD

**México**
Casa y Ciudad A.C.
Centro de Apoyo Mejoremos S.A. de C.V
Centro Operacional de Vivienda y Poblamiento A.C.
Centro Perifería 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

**Nicaragua**
Centro de Investigaciones y Estudios Municipales
Centro de Promoción del Desarrollo Local
Movimiento Comunal Nicaragüense

**Panamá**
Centro de Capacitación Social de Panamá

**Perú**
Alternativa, Centro de Investigación Social y Educación Popular
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 and Tobago**
Socios Socio-Educacional

**Venezuela**
Centro de Estudios y Educación Popular

**Middle East and North Africa**

**Egypt**
Better Life Association for Comprehensive Development
Egyptian Association for Collective Rights
Egyptian Centre for Housing Rights
Egyptian Association for Collective Development
Better Life Association for Comprehensive Development and Environment

**Iraq**
Iraq University Civil Community Foundation
Iraqi National University for NGOs, Human Rights and Migration Bureau

**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
### Welcome to our new Members 2021

During 2021, HIC approved and welcomed 10 new organizations as Members.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Africa</th>
<th>Middle East and North Africa</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Femmes Rurales Amies de la Paix et du Développement (FERAPAD): Democratic Republic of Congo</td>
<td>Dr. Haider Abdel Shafi Center for Culture and Development (HCCD): Palestine</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Community Alliance for Human Settlements in Zimbabwe (CAHSZ): Zimbabwe</td>
<td>Human Rights and Democracy Media Center (SHAM): Palestine</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Grassroots Trust for Community Organization in Kenya (GRATCO-K): Kenya</td>
<td>Latin America</td>
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<tr>
<td>Shift 4 Change (S4C): Kenya</td>
<td>Programa de Investigación y Extensión sobre Producción del Espacio y derecho a la Ciudad (Poder Habitar): Argentina</td>
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<tr>
<td>Asia</td>
<td>Europe</td>
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<td>Working People's Charter (WPC): India</td>
<td>School of the Built Environment and Architecture (BEA-LSBU): United Kingdom</td>
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<td>Mauritania</td>
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<td>Dibeen for Environmental Development Association Mauritanienne pour le Bien Être et le Secours de l'Enfant et de la Mère</td>
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<td>Morocco</td>
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<td>Environnement Développement et Action au Maghreb</td>
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<tr>
<td>Association Marocaine des Droits de l’Homme</td>
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<td>Espace Associatif</td>
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<td>Right to Water Forum in Arab Region</td>
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<td>Palestine</td>
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<td>Al Mezan Centre for Human Rights</td>
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<td>Al-Haq Law in the Service of Man</td>
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<tr>
<td>Applied Research Institute of Jerusalem</td>
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<td>Arab Center for Agricultural Development</td>
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<td>Dr. Haider Abdel Shafi Center for Culture and Development</td>
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<td>Sisters Arabic Forum for Human Rights (Muntada al-Shaqa’i q al-Arabi li Huquq al-Insan)</td>
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<td>Yemeni Youth Development Organization</td>
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**North America / 29**

| Canada                                                                                                     |                                                                 |
| Canadian Housing & Renewal Association                                                                     |                                                                 |
| Center for Equality Rights in Accommodation                                                               |                                                                 |
| Centre de transformation du logement Communautaire / Community Housing Transformation Centre |                                                                 |
| 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 Chômage de Longueuil**

**National Housing and Homelessness Network**

**Réseau Québécois des OSBL d Habitation**

**Rooftops Canada / Abri International Tenants’ Rights Action Coalition**

**Wellesley Institute**

**Canada**

**Association of Community Organizations for Reform Now**

**Bahá’í International Community**

**Global Communities**

**Henry Street Settlement House Institute for Transportation and Development Policyç**

**International Real Estate Institute**

**International Rivers Network**

**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**

**Pathways to Peace**

**Planners Network**

**Public Interest Law Center of New Jersey**
HIC Global Data

On 31 December 2021, HIC had 365 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 1st 2021 and 31 December 2021, the online system received 15 new applications for membership (from 13 organizations and 2 persons). 10 organizations and 2 individual were approved in the considered period. Regarding Membership fees payment, a total amount of 1.800 US$ and 2.161,28 € were received through 33 payments. In addition, 20 HIC Members had contributed through in-kind contributions.

It’s important to highlight that an important part of the HIC Social Base 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 2021).

Other relevant figure is the number of individuals related via HIC Social Media Tools. More precisely, 6,261 individuals follow HIC’s Facebook page, getting 470 followers in this period; HIC mailing lists’ have 1,262 subscribers between Allies/partners and Social Bases; HIC’s Twitter account has 5646 followers getting 640 followers in this period.
Regarding HIC Global website, 25,220 users visited www.hic-net.org between January and December 2021, to check how HIC, Members, Friends and Allies are working so that everybody has a safe place to live in peace with dignity.

Note: The amount of Members might vary from a year to another due to the fact that some organizations cease to work, others are victims of repression in their countries and are obliged to cease activities. The election processes of Representatives at the HIC Board or HIC Presidency always represent, for the Secretary General, 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 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

Adriana Allen
President
The Bartlett DPU
United Kingdom

Moussa Ka
Africa
Association Habitant et Travailleurs de Baraka - Senegal

Alexandre Apsan Frediani
Europe
The Bartlett DPU

Ana Pastor
Latin America
Civil Association Madre Tierra - Argentina

Rana Ghanem
Middle East / North Africa
Social Democratic Forum, Yemen

Massa Kone
HIC Board Representative of Social Movements CGLTE OA (Mali)

Ana Falù
HIC Board Representative of Women’s and/or Feminist Movements CISCSA, Argentina

HIC Board Alternates

Maartje van Eerd
Europe
IHS - The Netherlands

Ramiro Garcia
Latin America
DESCO - Peru

Khalid Khawaldeh
Middle East/ North Africa
Dana and Qadisiyah Local Community Cooperative, Jordan

HIC Faces

HIC Reference Centers Staff

Davinder Lamba
HIC-Africa Focal Point
Nairobi

Yves Joel Zoffoun
HIC-Africa Focal Point
Cotonou

Ahmed Mansour
HIC-HLRN
Cairo

Heather EL Aydi
HIC-HLRN
Cairo

Joseph Schechla
HIC-HLRN
Cairo

Yasser Abdel Qader
HIC-HLRN / Cairo

Arefi Sandoval
HIC-Latin America

Magdalena Ferniza
HIC-Latin America

Mª Silvia Emanuelli
HIC-Latin America

Narciso Cuevas
HIC-Latin America

Norma Aguilar
HIC-Latin America

Raúl Rios
HIC-Latin America

Patricia Santiago
HIC-Latin America

Peter Slits
HIC Liaison Officer in the Netherlands

HIC General Secretariat Team

Yolande Hendler

Marie Bailloux

Irene Fuertes

Martin Visagie

Irene Mwendwa

Nazla Davids

Global Platform for the Right to the City Support Team

Isabel Pascual

Sophia Torres

Julieta Espinosa

Oriol Moya
HIC Remembers

Paul Maquet Makedonski

Director and founder of Cenca Perú, Paul Maquet Makedonski leaves behind a great legacy in urban social struggles, valuable teachings and a history of deep solidarity and commitment to the most disadvantaged sectors.

Paul was and is an example of life for many of us who believe that another world is possible. From our Coalition, we are deeply grateful to have been able to share with Paul so many spaces and struggles, with the recent online exchanges at our last General Assembly in early February, where Paul participated.

Our support to Cenca Peru comrades and family members.

And thanks to you Paul, for all that you have shared and for your tireless struggle for social justice. You will continue to be a source of inspiration so that through participatory and collective work we can build just places for all.

Forever.

Katharine Coit

Katharine Coit was born in Boston, USA in 1931, but had been living in France since 1958. She studied first Political Science, and then Urban Sociology, and wrote a thesis under the direction of Henri Lefebvre on a comparison of neighbourhood associations in the U.S. and urban social movements in France in the 1970’s. She studied these movements as a participant observer and, since then, was active in several movements struggling in different ways for the right to housing and to the city. Kath worked two years as a consultant for UNESCO on a programme concerned with low-income housing in a team with John Turner. From 1993 to 1995, she was the coordinator for a project for upgrading slum housing in Ho-Chi-Minh City Vietnam.

Kath worked for Association Internationale de Techniciens, Experts et Chercheurs (AITEC) and Urbanisme et Démocratie (UDÉ), both HIC Members located in France which she was representative.

She was a critical writer and analyst of the right to the city in the world. Passionate about the social changes and the cultural dynamics in the urban neighbourhoods, Kath Coit was especially concerned about environment health, urbanization and women’s rights and empowerment. She travelled extensively and helped communities in the whole world.

She never missing a HIC General Assembly or other HIC Meeting, nor an opportunity to visit to the local communities, and most often accompanied by Patrick, her companion. Kath has been a Board Member from 2006 to 2010, she was always raising relevant and important concerns, fighting against inequalities and social injustice and focusing on the youth and most-deprived communities.

In 2006, Kath was the HIC Member representative who called for HIC to regularly monitor and report on forced evictions global, while the HLRN Violation Database was being developed. She will always be remembered for her enduring contributions to HIC.

Kath left us at the beginning of 2021.

RIP, dear Kath...
Abu Rayhan
Abu Rayhan Al-Beeroonee was the Founding Chairperson and CEO of Shelter for the Poor, in Bangladesh, a small and local NGO whose mission is to advocate housing and land rights for the urban poor, also permanently struggling and fighting against a funding crisis.

Shelter for the Poor was a HIC Member since 2004 and “Al-Bee” was one of HIC’s cheerleaders, one of our core leaders, most of all the World Social Forum. He participated to many of our HIC global activities.

With a dedication to monitoring and whistle blowing around all evictions in his city, he was always part of all rallies organised by slums dwellers and protests against evictions, and raising funds for housing projects. While putting pressure on authorities, and claiming access to land for evicted slum dwellers and their families, his organization took a lead in designing decent houses with very low-cost technologies (made of corrugated tin) for the evicted slum dwellers and their families with a separate toilet and kitchen.

Abu Rayhan, a modest and sweet fellow, remains an example for HIC Members for his devotion to practical problems and both local and global activism.

Malick Gaye
Our colleague Malick Gaye, Executive Director of ENDA Rup in Senegal, a close friend in the HIC Family, passed away on 16 November 2021.

Malick was an integral part of HIC since its inception, representing ENDA Tiers Monde from the early 1980s onwards and ENDA RUP. While representing both organizations he always brought a critical shift in thinking and acted on the imperative need to address urban challenges and environmental justice by drawing on local knowledge, innovation and capacity to organize.

Malick was a charismatic leader and a wise and principled man. He was a tireless fighter and advocate for a more just world for all and especially for the smallest and most marginalised communities. This is the way we will remember him and honour his memory.

Since informing HIC Members and Friends of this great loss, we received and witnessed an outpouring of messages remembering Malick. His departure is felt by all those who have known him across Africa and the world.

HIC will continue to celebrate his memory, to value his great contributions, and to recognize his immense legacy for decades to come.

Forever in our thoughts, may Malick rest in peace, may he rest in power.

Eike Schütz
Eike Schütz passed away on 21 December 2021. For our coalition, this is the loss of a dear colleague and friend who has been committed to many of HIC’s Member and Allies organizations for half a century.

Always involved in the processes of social production of habitat. Our Coalition fondly remembers his love of nature and his dedication to building a better world for all.

His honesty and institutional rigor, his training as a carpenter and architect and his deep human qualities and social sensitivity led him to observe, understand, stimulate and support the diversity of our regional processes and to support the exchanges and joint actions that today give strength to HIC. Besides, Eike was part of the group of people who are denominated: “HIC wisdom keeper”, a keeper of valuable knowledge, resulting from the recipient’s commitment to HIC over time, of its evolution and the strive for people-centered and sustainable development of human settlements.

His imposed retirement took him away from what gave meaning to his life and fortunately in those difficult moments, we were able to recognize his work and friendship by putting together the book: “Vivitos y Coleando” (Alive and kicking), in memory of his legacy and trajectory, published in 2002 with multiple testimonies from companions along the way.
Throughout the year, our President, Adriana Allen, maintained close collaboration with the HIC General Secretariat (GS) and the regional and thematic reference centres, as well as holding regular meetings with Board members, to support our Institutional Review process, discuss strategic priorities, and the planning and implementation of ongoing initiatives. In addition, she facilitated a Board strategic planning retreat devoted to a political reading of emerging challenges across different regions to steer our advocacy work.

Activities undertaken in 2021 have been limited to online encounters due to the mobility restrictions we faced throughout the year. Below is an overview with some highlights:

**Building a strong coalition** goes hand in hand with strengthening our collective muscle to make a difference. She took decisive steps in collaboration with the Board and SG to review HIC’s internal strengths and challenges through an institutional review process to address historical regional imbalances and to revitalise HIC’s presence in all regions. The latter is not just a matter of recruiting new member, but nurturing by open dialogue, political analysis, strategic advocacy, action, and communication.

Over the years HIC’s links in Asia have dropped significantly and to develop a regional revitalisation strategy, Adriana and Yolande engaged in a series of dialogues with Asian networks active in the defence of habitat-related human rights. These included the Working People’s Coalition (WPC) (India) and KotaKita (Indonesia), as well as continuous dialogue with the Asia Coalition for Housing Rights (ACHR). HIC also contributed to their initiatives, for instance through Adriana’s engagement as a panellist at the 8th Urban Social Forum in September 2021, organised by KotaKita, and at an event organised by the Asia Europe People’s Forum.

To strengthen the capacity of the Board and HIC coordination with social movements, Adriana together with HIC’s Board and the GS issued a call for a Social Movement Representative. Although this is a global position, the Board specifically called for nominations from HIC Sub-Sahara Africa to enhance regional balance. The Board interviewed three excellent candidates and the outcome will be announced in 2022.

**Learning** is part of HIC’s DNA as it feeds our collective capacity to act. Throughout 2021 we embarked on workshops to devise together the pedagogic approach, objectives, and content of three forthcoming co-learning spaces to be implemented in the course of 2022. These included HIC Member facilitators from Africa, MENA, and Latin America, the HIC President, SG, staff and learning officers from HIC’s regional and thematic reference centres, as well as the DPU’s Knowledge in Action for Urban Equality (KNOW). See the GS report for more.

To build momentum for the co-learning spaces and engage deeper with the approach of emancipatory pedagogies that informs them, HIC President in collaboration with the GS and KNOW colleagues hosted an event at ICLEI’s Rise Africa Festival on “Learning from and across African cities: Emancipatory pedagogies for transformative change”. The event brought together an amazing array of panellists and discussants from 13 HIC African members and allied organisations reflecting on activism, social mobilisation, advocacy and policy change.

Aligned with HIC’s learning work, Adriana held a series of one-to-one interviews and collective workshops with HIC-AL members to elucidate key principles and practices that underpin the popular pedagogies practised within HIC and advance our capacity to advocate and effect change in defence of habitat-related rights and the right to the city. Practising popular pedagogies does not mean ‘training’ by those who presumably have knowledge, instead, it involves acknowledging that those who experience injustices are political subjects whose knowledge counts the most. With financial and staff support from KNOW, she forged a collaboration with Sandia Digital – a feminist film-making collective based in Mexico – to get under the skin of HIC’s popular pedagogy practices and identify ways to document and share them with a wider audience. The outcomes include a series of amazing short videos that can be accessed here. We are producing a documentary weaving the five capacities collectively identified, together with a collective article to be published by Environment & Urbanization in 2022.

**Action research**

Over the year, Adriana worked closely with UCLG and the DPU KNOW steering committee on the development of the sixth edition of the Global Observatory on Democracy and Decentralisation (GOLD) Report. Titled “Pathways to Urban and Territorial Equality: Addressing inequalities through local transformation strategies”, the GOLD VI Report is a collective effort to put inequalities at the center of urban and territorial questions. The report actively looks for ways to address inequalities through local transformation strategies. Throughout the first year of this project, HIC was involved in the process by participating in a scoping study, writing five case-based contributions and participating in online learning and practice exchanges bringing together local and regional
governments, civil society and academic institutions.

As part of the GOLD VI report, Adriana led the writing of Chapter 7 entitled ‘Renaturing’, in collaboration with Mark Swilling (South Africa) and Isabel Anguelovski (Spain). The chapter highlights the need to consider urbanization and nature as an integrated whole. Its central contention is that “a transformation pathway that renatures urbanization requires transcending the economic dependence on natural resource extraction and carbon intensive development that currently exacerbate socio-economic inequalities and cause socio-environmental injustices.” The analysis draws on 28 transformative practices. The report will be published in 2022 and launched at UCLG Congress in South Korea to inform its Pact for the Future of Humanity, as a roadmap for progressive municipalism.

Advocacy does not start and end with participation in explicitly self-designated ‘advocacy fora’ but involves processes of conscientization (different from awareness raising), mobilisation, critical dialogue, and the forging of alliances and crafting and communication of common messages to make a difference. Our Habitat Voices Manifesto is testimony of this, started by HIC-AL members in 2020. Throughout 2021 Adriana supported the consolidation of HIC’s manifesto to articulate further voices from other regions. This manifesto outlines essential principles and states obligations for transformative and redistributive recovery from COVID-19 and its consequences based on social and environmental justice. The UN Economic and Social Council (ECOSOC) published an executive summary of the Habitat Voices Manifesto on the occasion of the 2021 High Level Political Forum (HLPF). In July 2021, Adriana moderated an online side-event organised by HIC at the 2021 HLPF with contributions from Enrique Ortiz, Ana Falu, Rana Ghanem, and Alexandre Apsan Frediani among others.

Throughout 2021, Adriana was also actively engaged in advancing new advocacy alliances and means to pluralise HIC’s advocacy work. Among them, together with the GS, she continued promoting HIC’s engagement with those UN Special Rapporteurs whose mandates are highly relevant to the defence of human rights related to habitat. Building upon our first roundtable held on December 2020, HIC held a Second dialogue between civil society, local governments, and UN Special Rapporteurs, including Mr. David Boyd, Human Rights and the Environment; Michael Fahkri, Right to food; Olivier de Schutter, Extreme poverty and Human Rights and Dubravka Šimonović, Violence against Women its causes and consequences.

During October (World Habitat Day) and November 2021 (COP26 in Glasgow), Adriana actively supported HIC’s campaign to champion the recognition of climate justice as a habitat related human right. As such, she produced the statement and sound bite that led the campaign and participated as a speaker in an online event organised by HIC to critically assess takeaways from COP26 to advance people-led climate action. Prior to this, she joined the COP26 People’s Summit to discuss why Climate Justice is a Habitat Right. The event was chaired by Ramiro Garcia from DESCO (Peru), with inputs from several grassroots organisations from Latin America. In November 2021, our President together with HIC-AL and HLRN Coordinators participated in a write shop organised by UN Habitat to evaluate progress on the implementation of the New Urban Agenda (NUA). The outcomes are expected to be incorporated in the UN Secretary General’s report (due in April 2022).

Adriana supported several Members’ initiatives. These included her participation in two significant national level advocacy processes: a televised debate on the Zimbabwe Human Settlements Policy along with Community Alliance for Human Settlements in Zimbabwe (CAHSZ), and the Minister of Housing and Social Amenities of Zimbabwe; and a session in the Catalan parliament to approve a law to extend urgent measures to tackle the housing emergency (which was later adopted) with Observatori DESC and other grassroots movements in Catalonia. In addition, in May 2021, she participated as a speaker in FLACSO’s Roundtable: What styles of urban development could reduce the inequalities and socio-territorial vulnerabilities evidenced by the pandemic? In July, she chaired the Fearless Cities Conference, organised by Transformative Cities in conversation with four finalists and winners of the Transformative Cities People’s Choice Award, including Isadora Hastings from Cooperación Comunitaria A.C., Ixtepec, Mexico.

While this report offers a glimpse of our President’s work throughout 2021, more details can be found at HIC President Blog. Other publications by Adriana in 2021 related to HIC’s fight include:


The effects and consequences of the Covid-19 pandemic continued to shape the political, social and economic context of 2021. Structural realities that were exacerbated by the pandemic in 2020, such as political division, inequality and the climate crisis, continued. Others, such as emerging efforts to decommmodify access to adequate housing were reversed as states started lifting the moratorium on evictions, and began implementing undifferentiated strategies for economic recovery that largely prioritised private interests and left dire consequences for countless households. The financialisation of housing and its effects, together with the climate crisis and its intersection with habitat-related human rights remained dire contextual issues throughout 2021, and framed the work of HIC and the GS.

**Supporting learning and popular processes**

In response to structural injustice, a key strategy for HIC is to build cross-regional social force between Members through prioritising, strategising, learning and advocating together on human rights related to habitat.

The HIC Co-Learning spaces are an avenue to do just that. As cross-regional, multi-session online learning encounters, they draw on emancipatory learning practices (see President’s report in 2020 Annual Report), are conceptualised and facilitated by HIC Members, with the support of HIC President, regional and thematic structures.

While HIC has a long trajectory of learning practices, the 2021 co-learning spaces were the first time that cross-regional, participant learning and advocacy took place in this form, jointly conceptualised and prepared by the offices of the HIC GS, HIC-AL, HLRN and the HIC President. Twelve HIC members applied to be facilitators for three co-learning spaces, on Feminist approaches to habitat, Land rights, and Multi-level advocacy, respectively. Based on the contributions of HIC Members in a survey, the facilitators developed learning content for the online sessions and the online learning platform. Notwithstanding initial teething challenges, the content preparation for each of the co-learning spaces was well underway by the end of 2021, with the live co-learning spaces scheduled for early 2022.

Throughout 2021, the GS also participated in online learning exchanges with global civil society and local and regional governments as part of HIC’s five case-based contributions to the sixth edition of the Global Observatory on Democracy and Decentralisation report (GOLD VI) released by United Cities and Local Governments (UCLG) in 2022. More on this in the President’s report.

**Advocacy**

The Habitat Voices Manifesto continued to frame HIC’s strategic advocacy in 2021. The GS and HIC President coordinated the editing of the Manifesto which led to the updated version that was subtitled “A socially and environmentally just response to Covid-19”. An executive summary of the Manifesto was published by UN ECOSOC at the occasion of the 2021 High Level Political Forum (HLPF) and elaborated by HIC at an online side-event at the 2021 HLPF.

The GS also coordinated HIC’s inputs to the second report of the UN Special Rapporteur on the Right to Adequate Housing which is to be presented to the UN Human Rights Council in March 2022 on discrimination, segregation and the right to adequate housing.

In November 2021 the HIC GS and the Global Platform for the Right to the City held a joint member consultation to gather contributions on the UN Secretary General’s report (due in April 2022) evaluating progress on the implementation of the New Urban Agenda. The contributions informed the recommendations made by the HIC President, HIC-AL and HLRN Coordinators at a UN-Habitat organised writeshop to integrate stakeholder inputs into the final report.

During October (World Habitat Day) and November 2021 (COP26 in Glasgow), HIC campaigned for the recognition of climate justice as a habitat related human right, including an online event hosted on this theme which analysed takeaways from COP26 for advancing people-led climate action. HIC’s statement on the occasion of World Habitat Day 2021 outlined HIC’s position on climate justice in relation to the principles of the Habitat Voices Manifesto. This work sets a foundation for HIC’s continued and deepened mobilisation and alliance-building on this theme.

**Building a strong Coalition**

Throughout 2021, the GS also participated in online learning exchanges with global civil society and local and regional governments as part of HIC’s five case-based contributions to the sixth edition of the Global Observatory on Democracy and Decentralisation report (GOLD VI) released by United Cities and Local Governments (UCLG) in 2022. More on this in the President’s report.
With a new Secretary General and the approval of GS funding projects by Misereor (2021-2024) and ACCD, 2021 was an important year of strengthening regional coordination and strategy in Africa, consolidating HIC Board processes and strengthening the organisational foundations and functions within the GS.

Over 2021-2024 the GS committed to building regional coordination and strategy in Africa and Asia, beginning with a focus on Africa in 2021 and an increased focus on Asia from 2022 onwards. The HIC Board and GS held four extraordinary meetings with members to discuss coordination matters and regional balance in HIC, initiating the recruitment process for a HIC Africa Regional Coordinator, collaborating with the HIC President to host an event at ICLEI’s Rise Africa Festival 2021 on “Learning from and across African cities: Emancipatory pedagogies for transformative change” and supported the formation and efforts of the Women and Habitat Africa Working Group. This included a call for membership and advocacy processes on World Habitat Day 2021 and a presentation to the United Nations Expert Group meeting on affordable housing and social protection systems among women and female-headed-households. In Asia, the HIC President and GS prioritised (re)establishing contact with Asian networks and organisations, and contributed to initiatives such as the 8th Urban Social Forum in Indonesia.

Together with the President, the GS organised 2 General Assemblies and 18 Board meetings. Several of these were dedicated to an institutional review of HIC, which was catalysed in April 2021 by a need to reassess regional balance and organisational processes in HIC. The GS drafted a Terms of Reference, with contributions from the HIC President, Board and Wisdom Keepers and identified independent consultants who will begin the review in 2022.

The GS team grew from three staff members (comprising the SG, membership and communication officers) to include officers responsible for administration, learning and advocacy support, and a new accountant. The GS office moved to Cape Town, South Africa (with two locally-based team members) and developed effective modes for online planning, collaboration and team building (with team members based in other countries). The continued Covid-related travel restrictions meant that throughout 2021 all HIC meetings and gatherings took place online.

**HIC in Latin America and the Caribbean**

The COVID-19 pandemic that followed during 2021, forced us to continue adapting our work to the complex circumstances of the case but also led us to increase communication between the office and the membership and to creatively find ways of interaction and joint work in favor of human rights linked to habitat. Rights that today, more than ever, have once again assumed great centrality, favoring the exchange of ideas and proposals.

We present the main activities of the year based on the three strategic objectives pursued by HIC.

**Strengthening grassroots processes**

The office and its membership have worked to make visible, support and articulate the different actions and approaches that were put into practice as immediate responses to the pandemic. We have also continued working together with urban and rural communities to prevent and suspend evictions during the pandemic, to denounce and systematize the violations they imply, and to position the issue in the press and social networks. We also continue to support the realization of the right to housing through processes of social production of habitat and even litigated four cases of violation of the right to adequate housing before Mexican courts.

In conjunction with the Habitat Capacity Building (FOC-HAB) group of HIC-AL and the Faculty of Architecture of the Autonomous University of Mexico (UNAM) we developed the third edition of the "Ibero-American Diploma in Sustainable Participatory Habitat Design as a tool for the production and social management of habitat and for the exercise of rights", which has meant the possibility of opening, in one of the most relevant universities in the continent, a space for training in subjects that have a deep social meaning and that are normally left out of university curricula or are offered only as optional subjects.

During the year, together with the Center for Strategies and Action for Equality (CEAPI), the HIC-AL community radio #VocesDelHabitat, weaving Latin American utopias was launched, in the framework of which 5 podcasts were produced (with the objective of disseminating innovative processes related to socio-ecological and democratic alternatives and progressive social processes in the field of habitat throughout Latin America). These materials are also being disseminated through different radio stations and can be found on the following websites listen on Soundcloud.

**Advocacy on human rights related to habitat**

In 2021, multiple advocacy processes were carried out focused on: recognition of the right to adequate housing in the Constitution (Peru and Mexico) and the right to housing and the city (Chile); obtaining legislation in favor of self-managed habitat production (Argentina, Brazil, Venezuela); evictions and issues related to rents (Argentina, Brazil, Bolivia, Mexico, Dominican Republic); land policy (Argentina, Mexico); neighborhood improvement (Argentina, Mexico, Peru); feminist urban planning (Argentina, Colombia, Uruguay); right to water (Mexico); climate change (El...
Salvador, Peru, Mexico); opposition to regressive legislation on social rights (Uruguay) and participation in numerous activities and debate events organized by the United Nations.

On the occasion of the 20th anniversary of the Statute of the City of Brazil and the 5th anniversary of the New Urban Agenda, together with the Global Platform for the Right to the City and Cites Alliance, we held a four-day cycle of debates entitled “Advances of the Right to the City in Latin America: Debating the Statute of the City, the New Urban Agenda, new constitutional provisions, laws and public policies”. Social movements, decision makers, academics and social organizations from all over the region participated in the activity. The main debates of these days as well as the program of each one can be consulted here.

Building a strong Coalition

Three meetings of members were held during the year with the objective of planning actions together and sharing relevant information about each country, as well as possibilities for advocacy at the regional or international level. Representatives from more than 30 organizations participated in each meeting. At the request of the membership, the “Exploratory virtual workshop on: monitoring, advocacy and implementation of SDG 11 and related goals of the 2030 agenda for sustainable development” was organized. Training opportunities on Sustainable Development Goals will be followed up next year.

The regional group of production and social management of habitat held its VI meeting in November, with the participation of 35 people from 20 organizations from 12 countries, reaching a series of agreements.

Also presented, together with the Centro de Intercambio y Servicios para el Cono Sur (CISCAS) and the Red Mujer y Hábitat (Women and Habitat Network), were “Feminisms in loud voice: Latin American experiences of gender and habitat” a publication that includes 7 experiences from Argentina, Bolivia, Brazil, Chile, Colombia, Guatemala, Mexico and Uruguay.

In addition, together with the Asociación Civil por la Igualdad y la Justicia (ACU) of Argentina, we are working on a regional campaign for the improvement of neighborhoods in the post-covid area undersigned by 24 other organizations from all over the region, and is called “Our Neighborhoods, Our Rights, Our Cities”. On the occasion of World Habitat Day, we developed a communication exercise based on the elaboration of a collective toolkit. The campaign metrics. The campaign's reach of 14,289 people, reflecting the direct participation of 5 organizations in the networking. To structure the campaign and its content, we worked in 4 regional online workshops to which were added others that the members of the campaign developed at the local level. The objective of the workshops was to build and feed a matrix with 10 components of neighborhood improvement from which to break down the main collective demands that will be presented to decision makers in 2022.

HIC in Sub-Saharan Africa

This is the report of the HIC SSA Reference Centre, also known as focal point, based at Mazingira Institute (Kenya). The other focal point is based at ONG BETHSDA (Benin). Davinder Lamba, Sam Ikua Thiong’o and Diana Lee-Smith supported the operations of the focal point. It narrates the involvement of the focal point in HIC related affairs in its region and beyond.

HLRN Women’s Land and Homes (WLH) Project

The project was initiated and coordinated by HIC-HLRN. The first phase of the project included HIC members in Kenya (Mazingira Institute and Pamoja Trust) and Uganda (SSA: UHSNET), and the second phase included Zimbabwe (Zimbabwe Peoples Land Rights Movement) and Zambia (Civic Forum on Housing and Habitat). The Zimbabwe project involved a study to assess the impact, particularly on women, of an impending forced eviction, and the Zambia project involved a study of the land rights violation of indigenous women. They held workshops (physical and virtual) to share and disseminate the findings. Diana and Sam participated in the workshops and shared the outcomes of the Kenyan study.

Women and Habitat Africa Working Group (WHAWG)

WHAWG was initiated through a note verbale prepared by Diana, the erstwhile secretary, HIWAS Network, tabled at the 2020 HIC General Assembly.
The group is an action learning space for HIC-Africa members working on women’s land and housing rights and for advancing advocacy at the international, regional and national levels. It issued a statement during the Urban October month to create awareness of habitat issues affecting women in urban areas. The group has held virtual meetings. The convener is Dr Ify Ofong, Women in Environment and Development (Nigeria) and the secretary is Sam.

**HIC institutional review**

An independent HIC institutional review was the outcome of the consultations between the HIC Africa members, including the Wisdom Keepers-Diana and Davinder, and the HIC Board, following the resignation of Dr. Ify Ofong as the HIC Africa region Board member.

The wisdom keepers submitted a letter on the “Amelioration of the problematic situation in HIC” to HIC Africa members and the Board. The wisdom keepers believed the way forward was that the review identifies opportunities for improvement of HIC performance in the Africa region, as well as HIC governance generally and the global image of HIC.

**WhatsApp Group**

HIC members in Africa have formed a WhatsApp group as a platform for rapid communication and response concerning HIC affairs in the region. The administrator is HIC GS.

**HIC climate justice advocacy on Urban October**

Diana participated in the virtual event. Her contribution was on urban food systems and climate change. It was based on Mazingira’s extensive work in this area. She explained how urban farmers in Nairobi recycle livestock waste as an input for soil health, for healthy crop production, including recycling of organic and non-organic wastes, and this contribute to mitigating climate change and harmful environmental impacts.

**Learning Officer position**

The focal point publicised position through English and French networks in the country, since the applicants had to be bilingual. The effort was successful, and the HIC interview panel appointed an applicant from Nairobi.

**Executive Board of UN Human Settlements Programme**

Davinder collaborated with Joseph Schechla, Coordinator, HIC HLRN, in formulating HIC’s submission on the relevant agenda items of the Second Session of the Executive Board held in November. It was submitted to the Programme by HIC GS following approval by HIC Board.

**HIC representation in IPC for food sovereignty youth caucus**

Samuel represents HIC on the youth caucus of the International Planning Committee (IPC) for Food Sovereignty. He facilitated its training session on Public Policy Making Cycle for Family Farming, to build the capacity of youths for effective participation in policy making processes at national, regional and international levels. It was organised in collaboration with FAO and IFAD.

**Africa region counter mobilization to UN Food Systems Summit (UN FSS)**

Sam represented HIC in Africa region group for mobilization against the neo-liberal stance of the 2021 UNFSS and the corporate capture of food systems, particularly in Africa.

The African group among other actions, sent an open letter to African Union denouncing the so-called AU “common” position on UNFSS, which supports corporate agriculture and ignores the human right to food.

**Passing of El Hadji Malick Gaye**

The HIC fraternity and the HIC Africa region mourned the untimely passing of El Hadji Malick Gaye, Executive Director, ENDA RUP, the erstwhile HIC SSA Reference Centre (Senegal).

A tribute by Davinder is published in the HIC Bulletin. “As an unparalleled collaborator and promoter of HIC in the African region and globally, he leaves a gap that can never be filled”.

**HIC in the Middle East and North Africa**

In the first part of the year, HIC-MENA launched its new study Counting on Justice: Victims of Land Violations and Supporting the Transitional Justice Project for Reparations in Yemen, based on the project implemented in Yemen with HIC Members on applying the tool of counting costs for the victims of land and property rights violations.

In February, HIC-MENA participated in the Second Arab Land Conference, presenting a masterclass about land as a human right in collaboration with GLTN.
In March, HIC-MENA joined the Arab CSOs Forum on Sustainable Development to prepare for the HLPF 2021 process. HIC-MENA participated with the presentation ‘Climate Action from Global to Regional’.

In April, HIC-MENA and its members collaborated on a series of the Special Rapporteurs reports on the Right to Adequate Housing, Food, Transitional Justice, and the Situation in Palestine.

During May, as a result of the tragic situation witnessed in the region and the gross violations committed by Israeli forces against Palestinians in the West Bank and Gaza, HIC-MENA focused its efforts, along with Members in the region, on supporting Palestinians, with several activities carried out before the political and legal bodies of the UN Human Rights system.

In a bid to support the capacity building of its members in the MENA region, HIC-MENA organized two regional workshops during September: the first on the use of extraterritorial obligations (ETOs) to build a regional strategy, and the second on support for the advocacy efforts related to the occupied Western Sahara.

In June, during the process of the HLPF, HIC-MENA, along with its Members, was engaged in preparing the Key Messages from the VNRs of MENA countries — Tunisia, Iraq and Egypt.

During October, the HLRN participated in a regional training event organized by Palestine’s Union of Agricultural Work Committees (UAWC) on Land, Women and Socio-economic Development in the Arab Region in Erbil, Kurdistan Iraq, which took place on 25-26 October. HIC-HLRN’s contribution was a review of the relevant policy and legal frameworks as presented in State reports to the UN’s Development and Human Rights bodies.

On 10 November, HIC’s Board adopted a statement in solidarity with six Palestinian human rights organizations, including HIC Members, partners, colleagues and friends. Since the baseless attack, new, disturbing elements have come to light. Reports revealed that human rights activists affiliated with these organizations were targeted by Israel’s military-grade spyware ‘Pegasus’, which was installed on their phones to access data and communications, in a serious breach of privacy.

During 2021, the HIC-MENA office, in collaboration with MENA Members, launched three issues of Land Times newsletters (March-July-December).

In June and September, HIC-MENA and the members of the IPC Regional Process organized two regional meetings in preparing the Nyéléni 3 Process as an alternative popular platform for the World Food Summit.

In celebration of World Habitat Day, the HIC-MENA office launched its "Conflict, Occupation and War: Habitat-related human rights violations since the pandemic-era call for a global cease-fire", to present the tragic cases of displacement and the demolishing of homes and properties recorded in the Housing and Land Rights Violation Database (VDB) during the impacts of the 2020-2021 pandemic.

HIC Housing and Land Rights Network

2020 started 2021 like 2020 closed, with forced evictions mounting around the world, as detailed in the 2020 World Habitat Day report from HLRN’s Violation Database, “A Pandemic of Violations,” That contrasted with global and local calls for a moratorium on forced evictions during COVID.

Meanwhile, leaders from the UN Secretary-General to the Catholic Pope also called for a global cease-fire. But conflict, occupation and war continued apace. We even saw new and resurgent conflicts between Armenia and Azerbaijan, in Nigeria’s southeastern Biafra region and a broken 30-year cease-fire in Moroccan-occupied Western Sahara. Palestine remained in the headlines, with Israel concentrating forced eviction of Palestinians and demolition of their homes in the rural West Bank and neighborhoods of East Jerusalem.

This violence caused widespread displacement in the affected regions, the world saw a record 82.4 million displaced, including 26.4 million refugees, 4.1 million asylum seekers and 3.9 million Venezuelan displaced persons. 86% of displaced persons are from developing countries, 73% are in neighboring countries, and 63% are hosted in only five states (Afghanistan, Myanmar, South Sudan, Syria and Venezuela).

Indigenous peoples’ land struggles have seen the restoration of some rights in North America, after long court battles, while the south found their centuries-old dispossession in the current news, not least with the escalating conflict between the Mapuche people and agro-business and extractive industries, as
the invasion of Amazonian peoples' lands continue to coincide with burning the rainforest.

On the positive side, international law norms have progressed this year with the UN Committee on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights draft of a General Comment on states' obligations with regard to land. After 100 inputs from states and NGOs to the Committee so far, that process continues into 2022 among other advocacy opportunities still to come.

**HIC in Europe**

Habitat Rights struggles in and from Europe have been focusing particularly on the discussions around the pandemic and its recovery. There has been some interesting and progressive initiatives opening opportunity for policy and planning impact, as local governments have recognised and supported civil society role in responding to the pandemic. A key priority has been on how to sustain these impacts. Another key development in Europe has been the publication of Housing 2030 report, produced by United Nations Economic Commission for Europe and Housing Europe. The report outlines many important messages that HIC members have been advocating for, including the need to integrate climate justice and habitat rights, as well as a stronger role of governments in recognising, protecting and fulfilling the right to adequate housing.

In terms of HIC activities, we had a series of interesting webinars coordinated by HIC Europe members, and implemented in partnership with HIC. These have been important spaces to exchange experiences and build solidarity with groups in Europe and beyond. The engagement with the UCLG Gold Report has continued this year, and HIC submitted really important case studies, which are contributing to the elaboration of the report chapters and shaping its overall messages. Now looking a bit forwards, we are just now starting to put together the plan for the collaborative housing day, at the International Social Housing Festival, which will take place in Helsinki, 14-17 of June 2022. This is an exciting event bringing together social and public housing actors, NGOs and social movements in this field. The collaborative housing day proposal will focus on issues like finance and legal frameworks needed to support collaborative housing processes, as well as lessons learned from experiences in the Global South, and the role of collaborative housing in responding to the pandemic and other global social and environmental challenges.

In 2019, a new law, the 'Canadian National Housing Strategy Act' was passed, which recognized that housing was a right in Canada. The law introduced a number of mechanisms designed to enshrine that right at a collective level. Updates on these mechanisms include:

**HIC in North America**

**Introduction of a ‘National Housing Council’:** The legislation established a National Housing Council whose role would be to advise the Minister on policies and programs that could help the government meet its obligations under the right to housing. The Council was named in November 2020, and already the Council has established 3 priorities for 2021-22: Urban, rural and northern Indigenous housing, improving the National Housing Strategy, and progressive realization of the right to adequate housing.

**Introduction of a ‘Federal Housing Advocate’:** The legislation also established a new “Federal Housing Advocate” whose role would be to accept public grievances and submissions regarding violations of the right to housing, and request investigations and studies into violations of the right. To date, the Advocate has not yet been named by the government (the Minister has said an Advocate will be named no later than January 2022), although the Office of the Advocate is now up and running.

There were 2 other developments of note in 2021. First, in response to the pandemic, in September 2020, the Canadian government unveiled a new $1 billion "Rapid Housing Initiative". The purpose of this program was to provide funding to develop new housing quickly, either through accelerated construction techniques or acquisition of existing structures. By the end of March 2021, the program had selected 179 projects that created 4500 new units of affordable housing. In April 2021, the federal government announced a second round of $1.5 billion under the same program, which will create thousands more affordable housing units.

Second, a federal election was held in September 2021. The issue of safe, affordable housing was a dominant issue in the election, alongside the pandemic and climate change. All political parties, including the victorious Liberal Party under Prime Minister Justin Trudeau, made significant commitments to introduce new policies and programs to address safe, affordable housing. This prioritization was evidenced when the Prime Minister introduced a new standalone Minister of Housing in his new Cabinet. The federal government has repeated that housing is a top priority, and has repeated its objective to end chronic homelessness in Canada.
2020 HIC General Assembly

The 2020 General Assembly was held electronically on 10 February 2021. It was attended by 98 participants (50 women and 48 men) from 67 organizations across 30 countries. Seven Board Members and the teams of five HIC structures were present.

After the welcome by Stéphan Corriveau, HIC Vice-President, who chaired the meeting, the agenda and minutes of the 2019 General Assembly were presented and approved by the Assembly. Alexandre Apsan Frediani, Board Member and Treasurer, presented the 2014, 2015 and 2016 audited financial statements, which bring together the contributions of the four HIC Reference Centres, to the Assembly for review and approval.

A central part of the meeting was the mapping of HIC priorities for 2021-2024 by Members. The outcomes were: youth, social movements, gender, local governments, and habitat-related rights.

In terms of the participation of the Membership, HIC staff shared the Habitat Voices campaign and manifesto, information on the Youth Working Group, a live poll on HIC’s communication, and Member updates. Next, HIC Focal Points and Board Members shared regional and thematic updates, as well as activities carried out during 2020 and new challenges for 2021.

Finally, the floor was opened for discussion for participants to share their struggles, challenges and expectations in relation to human rights related to habitat.

Click here to read the full minutes.

Second Dialogue between Civil Society, Local Governments and UN Special Rapporteurs

Following a first roundtable held in December 2020, the Global Platform for the Right to the City (GPR2C), Habitat International Coalition (HIC) and United Cities and Local Governments (UCLG) held a second dialogue on 3 February with Special Rapporteurs — Mr. David Boyd, Human rights and the environment; Mr. Michael Fahkri, Right to food; Mr. Olivier de Schutter, Extreme poverty and human rights; and Ms. Dubravka Šimonović, Violence against women, its causes and consequences — as well as civil society organizations and local and regional governments.

During this dialogue, priorities and initiatives related to the spatial and territorial dimensions of human rights were shared. In addition, possible paths and spaces for collaboration between mandates and with civil society organizations and local and regional governments were identified in order to influence global processes within the UN and beyond, including the development of bold new narratives based on the transformative potential of human rights.

For more information, click here.

International Women’s Day 2021

Celebration of HIC’s achievements in gender equality and equity at global, regional and local levels. The HIC Board has incorporated a Representative of Women’s and/or Feminist Movements, and the momentum of the African region to reestablish the HIC Women and Shelter Group that has a long history in HIC was materialized. Further, in Latin America, the Coalition remains strong and active in this area thanks to
Recognition of the strength and progress of feminisms around the world and the essential role of women in defending human rights related to habitat and sustaining life. In terms of challenges, the pandemic has made pre-existing inequalities visible. With relation to gender equality, we can see three decisive dimensions expressed in each territory and population:

1. Violence against women and girls remains a global issue.
2. Women are the caretakers of the household.
3. Women are the guarantors of life and food.

Click here for further information.

Towards Adherence to Human Rights and the Right to the City

This publication seeks to understand the nature and efficacy of, and lessons learnt from, civil society strategies to influence public policy in favour of the implementation of human rights related to habitat and the Right to the City.

The research is divided into three regional components: 1) the African component provides valuable insights into how different actors have responded to the extremely varied political contexts in the interest of influencing policy areas relevant to human rights and the Right to the City as diverse as adequate housing, land rights, water, sanitation, waste management, forest management, women’s rights, youth services, and even constitutional reform; 2) the Latin American component portrays three concrete struggles in which civil society played an essential role in getting laws passed in line with human rights and the Right to the City, and in favour of the most vulnerable groups; 3) the European component was more robustly concerned with analysis and data collection, with attention paid to case studies of particular interest identified in the literature review in France (Paris), Spain (Barcelona) and Germany (Berlin).

The resulting report highlights the notable synergies between civil society and local governments as well as academic and training institutions, and partnerships that will hopefully be an inspiration to replicate strategies and enhance collaborative work to influence local, regional or global charters, policies, action plans, programmes and development in line with the Right to the City and the social production of habitat principles.

Click here to watch the presentation and download the publication.

Learning from and across African Cities: Emancipatory pedagogies for transformative change

This session reflected on transformative pedagogic practices that mobilize learning on forward-thinking ideas and impactful action for just urban development across African cities. Aiming to bridge the gap between social movements, grassroots organizations and progressive academic institutions across urban Africa, this session brought together critical actors in urban pedagogy as a ‘community of practice’ to share their experiences in generating transformative change through intersectional pedagogies.

Participants reflected collectively on the key pedagogic principles and practices required to support the next generation of urban champions to effect radical change towards urban justice.

The session sought to facilitate learning across these domains to overcome the digital divide and to collectively deliberate on the underlying principles and aspirations that enable these pedagogies to be transformative. Building on this collective reflection, the output of this session will be a Decalogue or set of pedagogic principles to guide pluralistic and transdisciplinary learning processes for the next generation of urban champions in Africa.

This event was hosted by the Knowledge in Action for Urban Equality (KNOW) programme in partnership with HIC and the Sierra Leone Urban Research Centre, Ardihi University, and Makerere University. With participants from Cameroon, Zimbabwe, Tanzania, Sierra Leone, Uganda, South Africa,
Women and Habitat Africa Working Group

The HIC-Africa region has formed a Working Group on Women and Habitat. The group will consolidate the activities of HIC-Africa Members on women’s land and housing rights, and offer a collective voice for intensified advocacy.

This Women and Habitat Africa Working Group continues HIC’s commitment to gender equality first advanced through the HIC Women and Shelter Network (HIC-WAS) in the 1980s and 90s. This led to the UN Human Settlements Commission’s Resolution 13/13 of May 1991 that “invites governments and UN-Habitat to develop closer cooperation with HIC Women and Shelter Network and similar non-governmental organizations at national, regional and international levels.”

The working group aims to renew and build on the earlier efforts of HIC-WAS as well as link up with many HIC-Africa Member organizations’ ongoing HIC-HLRN projects on women’s land and housing rights.

HIC’s Priorities at the 2021 UN HLPF

HIC participated in the 2021 UN High-level Political Forum on Sustainable Development (HLPF) by organizing the side event ‘A Socially and Environmentally Just Response to COVID-19’.

This event aimed to answer the HLPF’s main question: What does a sustainable and resilient recovery from COVID-19 that promotes the economic, social and cultural dimensions of sustainable development look like?

HIC responded by presenting a collective manifesto on Habitat Voices that highlights how responses to COVID-19 and its consequences can and need to uphold human rights related to habitat. The manifesto aligns multiple and seemingly diverse policy commitments into a post-pandemic vision that rallies civic, public and private-sector efforts around the 2030 Agenda. It brings together the voices of civil society organizations worldwide — HIC Members active as social movements, grassroots organizations, NGOs, academia and more — addressing how to integrate current commitments and States’ human rights obligations to build a socially and environmentally just present and future.

To this end, HIC called for far bolder action, investments, and political commitments from States to realize habitat-related human rights on the ground.

Click here to watch the HIC side event at the HLPF.
Fearless and Transformative Cities: Housing stories from the ground

The right to housing is under attack. We are seeing alarming levels of homelessness, forced evictions, and unaffordable homes — we need long-term solutions to the global housing crisis.

As Leilani Farha, former UN Special Rapporteur on adequate housing, argues: "Due to the unprecedented nature of the crisis, tinkering around the edges of an unsustainable model of economic development will not work. The right to housing must be implemented in a manner that shifts the way housing is currently conceived, valued, produced and regulated."

Yet, what might transformative and sustainable alternatives in the housing sector look like? To discuss this, we brought together four finalists and winners of the Transformative Cities People’s Choice Award to showcase a range of experiences — from Brazil to Ireland — at the Fearless Cities Conference in July 2021 for a discussion moderated by Adriana Allen, President of the Habitat International Coalition.

Transformative Cities is an opportunity for progressive local governments, municipalist coalitions, social movements and civil society organizations to popularize and share their experiences of building solutions to our planet’s systemic economic, social, political and ecological crises.

Click here to watch the video.

Another City is Possible: The 2021 Urban Social Forum

Since 2013, The Urban Social Forum (USF) has become an open and inclusive space organized by Indonesia’s HIC Member Kota Kita to exchange knowledge, debate ideas, and network among civil society organizations, activists, academics, and students working on pressing urban issues.

The 2021 edition was the eighth year running in which the USF organized under the slogan “Another City is Possible!” as a call to facilitate critical conversations about what kind of city we want and need, and how cities can be more inclusive when it comes to all kinds of aspirations, communities, people, and futures.

On 7 September 2021, HIC participated in the Opening Plenary: Another City is Possible! where participants discussed new forms of emerging activism, the leveraging of various digital tools, and platforms through which to organize and mobilize to advocate for systemic change.

The discussion was moderated by Prodita Sabarini, Executive Director of The Conversation Indonesia, with speakers Member’s priorities to strengthen the social force of HIC. Their objectives include:
- Enhancing communication and critical consciousness around collective ways of thinking and acting in a transformative way.
- Building and nurturing bridges across different geographies that face similar challenges and responses.
- Building a social force: Beyond traditional modes of training, the HIC co-learning spaces engage with learning as a practice of activating political change, developing our collective muscle and social force.

Throughout 2022 and 2023, HIC will be hosting three co-learning spaces: Feminist Approaches to Habitat; Land Rights and Multi-level Advocacy. Each co-learning space will be facilitated by a cross-regional group of HIC Members from Africa, Latin America, and the Middle East and North Africa.

For more information on HIC co-learning spaces, click here.
including Ahmad Rifai from Kota Kita, our President Adriana Allen, Rodrigo Faria G. Iacovini from the Polis Institute, and Beka Ulung Hapsara from Indonesia’s National Commission for Human Rights (Komnas HAM).

Click here for more information and to watch the Forum sessions.

Urban October 2021: Climate justice is a habitat right

Urban October 2021 provided us with a moment to raise our voices in the defence, promotion and realization of our human rights related to habitat. This month is not only about urban sustainability, even though the theme of World Habitat Day was “Accelerating urban action for a carbon-free world”. Social and environmental movements, activists, grassroots organizations, NGOs and local governments across the world raised their voices in a joint call for climate justice, articulating equality, human rights, collective rights, and historical responsibilities for climate change as an urgent political and ethical issue. This included many activities, campaigns and events hosted by HIC Members, Friends and Allies.

HIC and its Members were calling for climate justice to be treated and enacted as a fundamental habitat-related human right.

A just transition is possible, but calls for fundamental changes based on:

1. The fair redistribution of and access to international climate finance, and citizens’ control over climate financing mechanisms;
2. Recognition and action to tackle the highly unequally produced impacts of climate change — both historically and geographically — and the multiple ways in which such impacts exacerbate existing inequalities and produce new ones, with disproportional negative impacts across gender, race and age groups;
3. Democratizing the decisions that need to be taken to address both the causes and consequences of climate change, while tackling the historical climate debt accumulated over the long trajectories of exploitative capitalist accumulation, imperialism, patriarchy, and dispossession;
4. Acknowledging that climate justice requires both conflict-sensitive climate change policies and climate-proof peace-building; and
5. The fact that climate justice requires nurturing care and solidarity, but also responsibility and accountability across and within countries, cities, villages, and communities.

Our best wishes for robust health and recovery in the best sense of ‘resilience’. But that is hardly enough in return. We value Shivani and her continued advice and collaboration, and look forward to continued cooperation with her in any way possible.

Read the message sent to Shivani Chaudhry by the Coalition here.

A Big Thanks to Shivani Chaudhry

This year, it was with a heavy heart that we received the news of the resignation of Shivani Chaudry as Executive Director of the Housing and Land Rights Network – India. While we understand and respect the reasons for her decision, we also feel a great loss not only personally as colleagues, but also as a global Coalition.

Her dedication and the quality of her work have been exemplary, and an inspiration to many. We also trust that her example will inspire an able successor.

We cannot thank her enough for her critical thinking, promotion of the human rights dimensions of the human habitat, precise and skilful articulation of ideas, service to the innumerable victims of abuse of adequate housing and land rights in India and beyond. Her contributions to HIC’s critical presence in World Urban Forums, UN Human Rights bodies and the prolonged Habitat III processes have raised the standards of advocacy for HIC Members and others to aspire to. Her productive outputs and her support and guidance to junior and senior colleagues remain gifts that keep on giving.

Our best wishes for robust health and recovery in the best sense of ‘resilience’. But that is hardly enough in return. We value Shivani and her continued advice and collaboration, and look forward to continued cooperation with her in any way possible.

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4. Acknowledging that climate justice requires both conflict-sensitive climate change policies and climate-proof peace-building; and
5. The fact that climate justice requires nurturing care and solidarity, but also responsibility and accountability across and within countries, cities, villages, and communities.
These principles are aligned with the five key calls made to States in HIC’s Habitat Voices Manifesto. You can access HIC’s Declaration for 2021 World Habitat Day here.

Takeaways from COP26: climate justice with a human rights framework

In November 2021, HIC held the event ‘Climate Justice as a Habitat-related Human Right: Takeaways from COP26 to advance people-led climate action’ with the goal of discussing the outcomes of the Glasgow climate negotiations within the framework of climate justice and human rights, while highlighting some of the key pathways to build climate justice from a territorial perspective, anchored in human rights related to habitat.

The event reunited a diverse group of speakers: Adriana Allen, HIC President; Nessim Achouche, Rosa Luxemburg Foundation; David Dodman, International Institute for Environment and Development – IIED; Sebastian Duyck, The Centre for International Environmental Law’s Climate & Energy Programme; Khady Camara, Vacances Vertes / Women’s March for Climate Justice in Senegal; Joseph Schechla, HIC-HLRN Coordinator; and Sandra Guzmán, Climate Policy Initiative.

The efforts made by the Coalition during 2021 in terms of increasing its commitment and engagement with climate justice were highlighted, most notably in October with the launch of a global call for climate justice to be treated and enacted as a fundamental habitat-related human right. Such a call was rooted in the five pillars of HIC’s Habitat Voices Manifesto and supported by the articulation and testimonies of HIC Member initiatives around the globe.

In addition, the debate allowed for important insights on how HIC and its Members can strengthen their work on the climate justice front, and pointed out possibilities for further engagement with mobilized groups. In this sense, the event served as a stepping stone for continued efforts and discussions throughout 2022 and beyond, through the creation and consolidation of a working group within HIC dedicated to climate justice.

Click here for the report and video of the event.

HIC General Assembly 2021

HIC held its General Assembly on 9 December 2021 with 86 participants (43 women and 43 men) from 54 organisations, 31 countries; 8 Board members and the team of 7 reference centres.

HIC President, Adriana Allen, launched HIC’s 45th anniversary celebration, highlighting that the struggles that inspired the creation of HIC are still relevant and there are new challenges: the COVID-19 pandemic, the climate emergency, the financialization of life and the urban transition. He invited to look back and to look forward, to think about what comes next and to grow together as a Coalition.

After the approvals of the agenda, the minutes of the previous general assembly and the presentation of the financial statements from 2017 to 2019, the Coalition’s developments were shared, such as the institutional review, the elections of the Europe, Latin America, Africa and Latin America Board representatives in 2022 and the co-learning spaces. Afterwards, the regional and thematic coordinators reviewed the past year and shared their plans for the year ahead.

Finally, Joseph Schechla, HLRN coordinator, shared advocacy priorities for the coming year: Such as contributions to the Special Rapporteur on Human Rights in occupied Palestine on Israeli apartheid in housing and land administration; UN Commission on Social Development, Commission on the Status of Women, and the next session of CEDaW; the review of the Committee on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights of Congo, El Salvador, Guatemala, Indonesia and Iraq; policy forums as the UN Committee on World Food Security, among others. He also welcomed the Council’s recognition of the human right to a clean healthy and sustainable environment.

Click for the report and video of the event.
HIC Allies

**HIC advocated before International Forums**
- Arab Forum for Sustainable Development (UN Economic and Social Council for Western Asia)
- Committee on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights (CESCR)
- Committee on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women (CEDaW)
- Committee on Global Food Security (CFS)
- Committee on the Exercise of the Inalienable Rights of the Palestinian People (CEIRPP)
- High-Level Political Forum (HLPF)
- Human Rights Council (HRC)
- Inter-American Commission on Human Rights (IACHR)
- UN Committee on the Elimination of Racial Discrimination (CERD)
- UN Habitat Executive Board
- Universal Periodic Review – UN Human Rights Council
- United Nations Permanent Forum on Indigenous Issues

**HIC cooperated with multilateral organizations**
- 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 (FAO)
- Inter-American Commission on Human Rights (IACHR)
- Office of the High Commissioner for Human Rights (OHCHR)
- Special Procedures of the Human Rights Council
- UN Department of Global Communications – NGO Branch (UN DPI NGO)
- UN Department of Social and Economic Affairs (UNDESA)
- UN Division for Palestinian Rights (DPA)
- UN Human Settlements Programme (UN-Habitat)
- UN independent Expert on protection against violence and discrimination based on sexual orientation and gender identity
- UN Special Rapporteur in the field of cultural rights
- UN Special Rapporteur on human rights to safe drinking water and sanitation
- UN Special Rapporteur on the Human Rights of migrants
- UN Special Rapporteur on the right to adequate housing
- UN Special Rapporteur on the right to food
- UN Special Rapporteur on the situation of human rights defenders
- UN Special Rapporteur on the situation of human rights in the Palestinian territory occupied since 1967
- UN Human Settlement Programme (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)
- Working Group on the issue of human rights and transnational corporations and other business enterprises

**HIC Funders in 2021**
- Arab Land Initiative/Global Land Tool Network/
  Bundesministerium für wirtschaftliche Zusammenarbeit und Entwicklung (BMZ)
- Brot für die Welt
- Cardiff University / Economic and Social Research Council (ESCR)
- Comisión Nacional de Vivienda (CONAVI)
- Food and Agricultural Organization
- FoodFirst Information and Action Network International
- Fondation Charles Léopold Mayer pour le Progrès de l’Homme
- Ford Foundation
- Global Affairs Canada
- Misereor
- Rosa Luxemburg Stiftung
- Wellspring Advisors
- Wellspring Philanthropic Foundation (WPF)
- Rosa Luxemburg Stiftung
- Wellspring Advisors

**HIC International Allies**
- 10 Tooba
- Accountability Counsel
- Action Group on Erosion, Technology and Concentration (ETC Group)
- All Together in Diversity - Fourth World (Switzerland)
- American Association of Jurists
- Association of International Dalit Solidarity
- Boston University Human Rights Clinic
- Bretton Woods Project
- Cairo Institute for Human Rights Studies
- Centre d’Études et de Documentation Économiques, Juridiques et Sociales
- Center for International Environmental Law (CIEL)
- Cities for Adequate Housing
- Civil Society and Indigenous Peoples Mechanism for relations with the Committee on World Food Security (CSIPM)
- Cities Alliance
- Coalition for the International Criminal Court
- CoHabitat Network
- Commission Amazigh Internationale pour le Développement et les Droits de l’Homme
- Debt Justice
- Displacement Research and Action Network (DRAN),
- Massachusetts Institute of Technology
- Ecumenical Advocacy Alliance
- Economic, Social and Cultural Rights Network (ESCR-Net)
- Ecumenical Advocacy Alliance
- Extraterritorial Obligations (ETO) Consortium
- Food First Information and Action Network International
- Forest Peoples Programme
- Foro de Autoridades Locales
- Friends of the Earth
- Geneva Support Group for the Promotion and Protection of Human Rights in Western Sahara
- Global Convergence of Land and Water Struggles
- Global Initiative on ESC Rights
- Global Land Alliance
- Global Land Tool Network
- Global Network on the Question of Palestine
- Global Platform for the Right to the City
- Global Policy Forum
Espacio de Coordinación de Organizaciones Civiles sobre DESC (Espacio DESC)
European Action Coalition for the Right to Housing and to the City
European Coordination of Committees and Associations for Palestine
European Network for Community-Led Initiatives on climate change and sustainability (ECOLISE)
Facultad de Arquitectura de la Universidad Nacional Autónoma de México
Facultad de Arquitectura de la Universidad Autónoma de Yucatán (México)
Facultad de Arquitectura de la Universidad de Colima (México)
Facultad de Arquitectura, Diseño y Urbanismo de la Facultad Autónoma de Tamaulipas (México)
Facultad de Arquitectura, Diseño y Urbanismo de la Universidad de la República (Uruguay)
Facultad de Arquitectura de la Universidad Plata (Argentina)
Fédération Nationale du Secteur Agricole
FLACSO Ecuador
Foro de Autoridades Locales por la Inclusión Social y la Democracia Participativa
Fórum Nacional de Reforma Urbana do Brasil (FNRU)
General Union of Arab Peasants and Agricultural Cooperatives
Geneva Academy of International Humanitarian Law and Human Rights
Geneva Urban Hub
German Advisory Council on Global Change
GIZ Ecuador
Global Freedom of Expression, Columbia University
Graduate Institute of Development and International Studies
Gray Panthers
Hebron Rehabilitation Committee
Information and Resource Centre for the Deprived Urban Communities
Institute for Policy Studies
Instituto Brasileiro de Direito Urbanístico (IBDU)
Instituto de Investigaciones Parlamentarias (México)
Instituto de Investigaciones Sociales de la Universidad Nacional Autónoma de México
Instituto Mexicano de la Industria del Deporte y de la Recreación (IMIDRE)
Intendencia de Montevideo
Interamerican Association for Environmental Defense (AIDA) International Women’s Rights Action Watch – Asia Pacific
International Youth Council – Yemen
Intersocial Feminista
Joint Center for Housing Studies and Graduate Schools of Design - University of Harvard
Kayan - Feminist Organization
Kения Human Rights Commission
Kota Kita
La Sandia Digital
Laboratoire LAVUE- Université de Paris Nanterre
Laboratorio Nacional de Vivienda y Comunidades Sustentables
Latin American Association of Promotion
Lebanese Union for People with Physically Disabilities
Lincoln Institute for Land Policy
Los Arenales Rompiendo Barreras
Low Carbon Action in Ordinary Cities (LO-ACT)
Mercociudades
MIRA, Pensadoras Urbanas
Movimiento Mexicano de Afectados por las Presas y en Defensa de los Ríos (MAPDER)
Movimiento de Pobladores de Venezuela
Movimiento Urbano Popular de México
Museo de Arte y Diseño del Miami Dade College
Nairobi and Environ Food Security Agriculture and Livestock Forum
Nairobi People Settlements Network
National Center for Peace and Development
National IDPs Network
Negev Coexistence Forum for Civil Equality
Observatorio Vecinal del Centro Histórico
Plataforma de Afectados por la Hipoteca
Plataforma mesoamericana de productores sociales de vivienda sustentable
Poder Inquilinx
Programa Universitario de Estudios sobre la Ciudad (PUEC) de la UNAM (México)
Public Works Studio
Red de Desalojados de la Ciudad de México
Red de Mujeres Iberoamericanas
Red Mujer y Hábitat
Red Nacional de Productores Sociales de Vivienda
Red ProTerra
Red Universitaria de Cátedras de Vivienda (Red ULACAV)
Refugee Studies Centre, University of Oxford
Réseau Algérien des Associations de la Pêche Artisanale
Réseau des organismes paysans et de producteurs de l’Afrique de l’Ouest
Réseau Mauritanien pour l’Action Sociale
RESURJ: Realizing Sexual and Reproductive Justice
Right to the City Alliance
Sahrawi Natural Resources Watch
Secretaria Latinoamericana de Vivienda Popular
Servicios para una Educación Alternativa (EDUCA), México
Servicios y Asesoría para la Paz A.C. (SERAPAZ), México
Slum Jagatthu
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
Taller de Vivienda de la Universidad Autónoma Metropolitana (UAM)- Xochimilco (México)
Taller Max Cetto, Facultad de Arquitectura de la UNAM (México)
Takween Integrated Community Development
Tamkeen - Makanah Association
Taula del Tercer Sector Social de Catalunya
Teachers Creativity Center
Terra de Dereitos
Terre & Humanisme
The National Campaign to Protect the Bisri Valley
The Nature of Cities
The Schools of Public Engagement - The New School
Tibet Bureau
Tibet Justice Center
Union Générale Tunisienne du Travail
Union de Agricultores Workers Committees
Union of Palestinian Municipalities
Unión Popular Revolucionaria Emiliano Zapata (UPREZ), México
Universidad del Medio Ambiente (México)
Université d’Alger, Faculté de Droit
Urbanet
Vecinos Organizados del Centro Histórico de Lima
World Uyghur Congress
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>HIC Financial Statements 2020: AL, MENA, HLRN and GS (1)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Expressed in US Dollars</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Year 2020</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Income</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>HIC-AL (2) $186,820</td>
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<tr>
<td>HIC-MENA $271,642</td>
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<tr>
<td>HIC-HLRN $420,827</td>
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<td>HIC-GS $356,738</td>
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<td><strong>Total $692,743</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Income expressed in percentage</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td>22.1%</td>
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<tr>
<td>27.7%</td>
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<tr>
<td>34.7%</td>
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<td>44.2%</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Beginning Balanco 2020 (10) (11)</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td>HIC-AL $19,180</td>
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<tr>
<td>HIC-MENA $305,083</td>
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<td>HIC-HLRN $328,487</td>
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<td>HIC-GS $110,333</td>
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<td><strong>Total $152,917</strong></td>
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<td><strong>Beginning Balanco expressed in percentage</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td>22.1%</td>
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<td>40.3%</td>
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<td><strong>Donor Agencies (3 a, b, c, d)</strong></td>
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<td>HIC-AL $167,640</td>
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<td>HIC-MENA $14,507</td>
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<td>HIC-HLRN $92,340</td>
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<td>HIC-GS $243,220</td>
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<td><strong>Donor Agencies expressed in percentage</strong></td>
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<td>99.7%</td>
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<td>74.7%</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>HIC Membership fees (4)</strong></td>
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<td>HIC-AL $1,929</td>
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<tr>
<td>HIC-MENA $1,929</td>
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<td>HIC-HLRN $1,929</td>
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<tr>
<td>HIC-GS $1,929</td>
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<td><strong>Total $1,929</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>HIC Membership fees expressed in percentage</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td>2.9%</td>
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<td>2.9%</td>
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<tr>
<td>2.9%</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Solidarity, special contributions</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td>HIC-AL $18,934</td>
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<tr>
<td>HIC-MENA $1,256</td>
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<td>HIC-HLRN $20,190</td>
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<td>HIC-GS $20,190</td>
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<td><strong>Total $18,934</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Solidarity, special contributions expressed in percentage</strong></td>
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<td>100.0%</td>
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<tr>
<td>100.0%</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Expenditure</strong></td>
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<td>HIC-MENA $91,551</td>
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<td>HIC-HLRN $227,271</td>
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<td>HIC-GS $232,742</td>
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<td><strong>Total $722,840</strong></td>
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<td><strong>Expenditure expressed in percentage</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td>26.4%</td>
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<tr>
<td>26.2%</td>
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<tr>
<td>26.2%</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Staff Costs (4)</strong></td>
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<td>HIC-AL $91,521</td>
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<tr>
<td>HIC-MENA $69,403</td>
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<td>HIC-HLRN $111,883</td>
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<td>HIC-GS $135,230</td>
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<td><strong>Total $406,017</strong></td>
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<td><strong>Staff Costs expressed in percentage</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td>26.4%</td>
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<td>26.2%</td>
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<tr>
<td>26.2%</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Projects, activities (5)</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td>HIC-AL $50,134</td>
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<tr>
<td>HIC-MENA $6,734</td>
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<td>HIC-HLRN $54,675</td>
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<td>HIC-GS $77,581</td>
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<td><strong>Total $189,124</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Projects, activities expressed in percentage</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>26.2%</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Administration Costs (6)</strong></td>
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<td>HIC-AL $25,487</td>
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<td>HIC-MENA $10,553</td>
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<td>HIC-HLRN $49,140</td>
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<td>HIC-GS $12,593</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Total $97,773</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Administration Costs expressed in percentage</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>13.5%</td>
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<tr>
<td>13.5%</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Audit (7)</strong></td>
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<td>HIC-AL $4,334</td>
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<tr>
<td>HIC-MENA $4,661</td>
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<td>HIC-HLRN $11,593</td>
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<td>HIC-GS $6,733</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Total $27,321</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Audit expressed in percentage</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td>3.9%</td>
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<td>3.9%</td>
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<tr>
<td>3.9%</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Reimbursements of 2019's expenses (8)</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>HIC-AL $56</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>HIC-MENA $56</td>
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<tr>
<td>HIC-HLRN $56</td>
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<tr>
<td>HIC-GS $56</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total $56</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Reimbursements of 2019's expenses expressed in percentage</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td>0.9%</td>
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<td>0.9%</td>
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<td>0.9%</td>
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<tr>
<td>0.9%</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Exchange rate difference in &quot;beginning Balanco&quot; (10)</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>HIC-AL $549</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>HIC-MENA $549</td>
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<tr>
<td>HIC-HLRN $549</td>
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<tr>
<td>HIC-GS $549</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total $549</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Exchange rate difference in &quot;beginning Balanco&quot; (10) expressed in percentage</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>59.9%</td>
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<tr>
<td>59.9%</td>
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<tr>
<td>59.9%</td>
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<tr>
<td>59.9%</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Restricted cash on hand (9)</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>HIC-AL $15,344</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>HIC-MENA $362,993</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>HIC-HLRN $193,556</td>
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<tr>
<td>HIC-GS $123,996</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total $309,973</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Restricted cash on hand (9) expressed in percentage</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>59.9%</td>
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<td>59.9%</td>
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<tr>
<td>59.9%</td>
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<td>59.9%</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

**Notes:**

(2) Financial Statements are reported from four structures that have infrastructure dedicated to the Coalition purpose: Latin America (HIC-AL), Middle East (HIC-MENA), Housing and Land Rights Network (HIC-HLRN) and the General Secretariat (HIC-GS).

(3) HIC-AL office in Mexico works in three dimensions: (i) HIC networking and advocacy in Latin American, (ii) Support to HIC Presidency, and (iii) Mexican advocacy and networking. The HIC-AL accounting includes the three dimensions. 92% of the reported amounts corresponds to the national Mexican activities.

(3a) Main contributions to HIC-AL: Misereor (2019-2021) USD 80,931; Pouw Luxembourg Stiftung USD 46,449; HIC-Ford Foundation-Polis USD 10,853* (received from the GS as part of the joint project "R2C for all"); Weltzucht USD 12,475; FPH Dossier CITEGO USD 5,106; Global Giving Reconstruction Project 12,636 USD

(3b) Main contributions to HIC-MENA: IPC mapping USD 39,974; and HIC-HLRN General Fund USD 16,343

(4) The staff costs cover administrative and professional staff, whose duties are not related to a specific project but to the operation and administration throughout the HIC structure.

(5) The costs of projects and activities include fees, travels, associated events, per diem, publication and promotion (web sites).

(6) Administrative costs related to rent and office supplies (including telephone, ASOL and security), bank charges and fixed assets for the office (e.g. computer hardware and software).

(7) Audit: (6) HIC-AL, the auditor is Leonardo Velasco Paredes, Mexico DF, Mexico; (6) HIC-MENA, HIC-HLRN; the auditor is Waleed Al-Bitarawy & Assoc., Cairo, Egypt; (6) HIC-GS, the auditor is FLEXA Auditores y Consultores, Barcelona, España.

(8) Project claims relating to 2019 which has been paid out in current year.

(9) In the four cases, the restricted cash on hand represents funds committed to ongoing operations, projects and contracts. For HIC-MENA and HIC-HLRN, the cash on audit reports is accounted for on an accrual basis. The HIC-GS beginning balance for 2020 in this consolidated report differs from the 2019 closing balance as per the HIC-GS audited financial statement. This is due to different exchange rates applied in calculating the opening and closing bank balances in the 2019 HIC-GS audited financial statement. This opening balance difference is represented as an exchange difference expense in this report.

(10) This figure includes a large portion of historical debt accrued over 10 years in relation to unpaid staff costs. HIC is in conversation with relevant staff members about the outstanding balance.
Credit Photos

p.1 Samuel Ikua, Mazingira Institute / 8 M México / Eco Aldea Feliz / Gabriel Jimenez on Unsplash / Farmer in Cuba Marc Fleury / Wilsan U on Unsplash

p.2 Ciscsa / Biocanteens Mouax-France / Samuel Ikua, Mazingira Institute / Yousef Salhamoud on Unsplash

p.3 Adriana Allen

p.10 HIC Global Data

p.12 Selma Díaz, Red Mujer y Hábitat

p.13 Josse van der Rest, Hogar de Cristo

p.14 Yolande Hendler and Adriana Allen by Matthew Jordaan

p.16 HIC-GS

p.17 União Nacional por Moradia Popular

p.18 HIC-AL

p.19 Activities organized in the framework of the Women, Land and Homes Project - Samuel Ikua, Mazingira Institute / HIC-GS

p.21 HIC-MENA / Freepik

p.23 HIC-GS

p.26 HIC-GS

p.27 Shivani Chaudhry

p.28 HIC-GS

p.30 Ms Rana Ghanem / Khalid Khawaldeh

p.36 International Women’s Day (IWD) FUCVAM / Khadim Dahot, Sewa Development Trust Sindh-SDTS IWD, Suk4ur PAKISTAN / Timon Klauser on Unsplash / Cooperación Comunitaria

p.35 Red Hábitat / ONU / Rural Market in Ecuador Marc Fleury / Mika Baumeister on Unsplash
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](http://www.hic-al.org)
- hic-al@hic-al.org

**HIC Middle East and North Africa**
Coordination Office, Cairo - HIC MENA
- [www.hic-mena.org](http://www.hic-mena.org)
- hic-mena@hic-mena.org

**HIC Sub-Saharan Africa**
Focal Point, Cotonou - HIC SSA (Benin)
- [www.bethesdabenin.org](http://www.bethesdabenin.org)
- jyz.dcam_bethesda@yahoo.fr

**HIC Sub-Saharan Africa**
Focal Point, Nairobi - HIC SSA (Kenya)
- [www.mazinst.org](http://www.mazinst.org)
- mazinst@gmail.com

**HIC General Secretariat**
Coordination Office, Barcelona - HIC GS
- [www.hic-net.org](http://www.hic-net.org)
- gs@hic-net.org

**HIC Housing and Land Rights Network**
Coordination Office, Cairo - HIC HLRN
- [www.hlrn.org](http://www.hlrn.org)
- hlrn@hlrn.org

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**Social Networks**

- **Facebook**
  - [www.facebook.com/habitatinternationalcoalition](http://www.facebook.com/habitatinternationalcoalition)

- **Twitter**
  - @habitat_intl

- **HIC Video Channel**
  - [www.youtube.com - Habitat International Coalition](http://www.youtube.com - Habitat International Coalition)

- **HIC photo gallery**
  - [https://photos.app.goo.gl/7wqUAQQumBGn8HX8](https://photos.app.goo.gl/7wqUAQQumBGn8HX8)