

# Annual Report 2012



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UN  HABITAT



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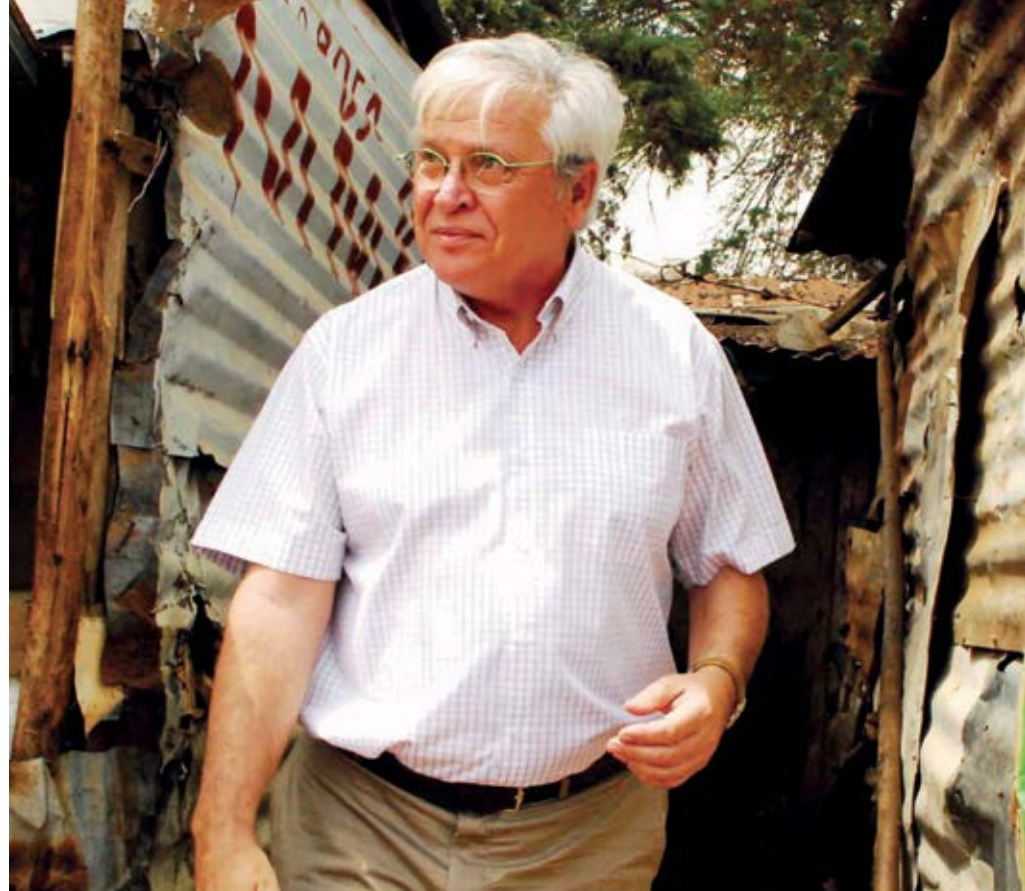
Apollo bridge in Bratislava, Slovakia. © Shutterstock/Dusan Po



# Foreword

With more than half of the world's 7 billion people living in cities, urbanization presents an opportunity to transform production and income levels in developing countries. By applying appropriate policies, strategies and support, towns and cities can propel development. We, therefore, need to prioritize urbanization to the top of national agendas and see it as a positive asset to drive development.

In 2012, UN-Habitat finalised a major organizational review, started in 2011, to transform the organization to enable it to respond to



focus and the capacity to effectively deliver strategic results and implement operational projects more efficiently in a transparent and accountable manner. To demonstrate greater transparency, UN-Habitat became a member of the International Aid Transparency Initiative

inadequate basic urban services, in terms of water, sanitation and energy; unsustainable patterns of energy consumption; increasing emissions of greenhouse gases; social and political conflict over land and natural resources; high levels of vulnerability to natural disasters.

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