



UN HABITAT



ANTIGUA AND BARBUDA: NATIONAL URBAN PROFILE



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HS Number: HS/018/12E

ISBN Number(Series): 978-92-1-132023-7

ISBN Number:(Volume) 978-92-1-132433-4

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ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

Design and Layout: Florence Kuria

Printing: UNON, Publishing Services Section, ISO 14001:2004 - certified.



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UNITED NATIONS HUMAN SETTLEMENTS PROGRAMME

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FOREWORDS



According to research published in UN-HABITAT's¹ flagship report, *The State of the World's Cities 2010-2011*, all developing regions, including the African, Caribbean and Pacific states, will have more people living in urban than rural areas by the year 2030. With half the world's

population already living in urban areas, the challenges we face in the battle against urban poverty, our quest for cities without slums, for cities where women feel safer, for inclusive cities with power, water and sanitation, and affordable transport, for better planned cities, and for cleaner, greener cities is daunting.

But as this series shows, there are many interesting solutions and best practices to which we can turn. After all, the figures tell us that during the decade 2000 to 2010, a total of 227 million people in the developing countries moved out of slum conditions. In other words, governments, cities and partner institutions have collectively exceeded the slum target of the Millennium Development Goals twice over and ten years ahead of the agreed 2020 deadline.

Asia and the Pacific stood at the forefront of successful efforts to reach the slum target, with all governments in the region improving the lives of an estimated 172 million slum dwellers between 2000 and 2010.

In sub-Saharan Africa though, the total proportion of the urban population living in slums has decreased by only 5 per cent (or 17 million people). Ghana, Senegal, Uganda, and Rwanda were the most successful countries in the sub-region, reducing the proportions of slum dwellers by over one-fifth in the last decade.

Some 13 per cent of the progress made towards the global slum target occurred in Latin America and the Caribbean, where an estimated 30 million people have moved out of slum conditions since the year 2000.

Yet, UN-HABITAT estimates confirm that the progress made on the slum target has not been sufficient to counter the demographic expansion in informal settlements in the developing world. In this sense, efforts to reduce the numbers of slum dwellers are neither satisfactory nor adequate.

As part of our drive to address this crisis, UN-HABITAT is working with the European Commission and the Brussels-based Secretariat of the African, Caribbean and Pacific (ACP) Group to support sustainable urban development. Given the urgent and diverse needs, we found it necessary to develop a tool for rapid assessment and strategic planning to guide immediate, mid and long-term interventions. And here we have it in the form of this series of publications.

The Participatory Slum Upgrading Programme is based on the policy dialogue between UN-HABITAT, the ACP Secretariat and the European Commission which dates back to the year 2002. When the three parties met at UN-HABITAT headquarters in June 2009, more than 200 delegates from over 50 countries approved a resounding call on the international community to pay greater attention to these urbanization matters, and to extend the slum upgrading programme to all countries in the ACP Group.

It is worth recalling here how grateful we are that the European Commission's 9th European Development Fund for ACP countries provided EUR 4 million (USD 5.7 million at June 2011 rates) to enable UN-HABITAT to conduct the programme which now serves 59 cities in 23 African countries, and more than 20 cities in six Pacific, and four Caribbean countries.

Indeed, since its inception in 2008, the slum upgrading programme has achieved the confidence of partners at city and country level in Africa, the Caribbean and in the Pacific. It is making a major contribution aimed at helping in urban poverty reduction efforts, as each report in this series shows."

I wish to express my gratitude to the European Commission and the ACP Secretariat for their commitment to this slum upgrading programme. I have every confidence that the results outlined in this profile, and others, will serve to guide the development of responses for capacity building and investments in the urban sector.

Further, I would like to thank each Country Team for their continued support to this process which is essential for the successful implementation of the Participatory Slum Upgrading Programme.

A handwritten signature in black ink, which appears to read 'Joan Clos'. The signature is fluid and cursive, with a long horizontal stroke at the end.

Dr. Joan Clos
Executive Director, UN-HABITAT

¹ UN-HABITAT - United Nations Human Settlements Programme

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

OVERVIEW

“Slums in many cities are no longer just marginalized neighbourhoods housing a relatively small proportion of the urban population; in many cities, they are the dominant type of human settlement, carving their way into the fabric of modern-day cities, and making their mark as a distinct category of human settlement that now characterizes so many cities in the developing world.” - UN-HABITAT

With over half the world population living in cities, it is estimated that one in every three urban dwellers now lives in a slum. The total slum population today exceeds one billion.

The daunting daily challenges poverty-stricken slum dwellers face range from a lack of basic services and infrastructure such as water and sanitation, to a lack of security of tenure and job opportunities.

A large number of them live in the African, Caribbean, and Pacific regions, which is why the European Community, through its agency EuropeAid and the Intra-ACP Fund, provided 4 million Euros for UN-HABITAT's Participatory Slum Upgrading Programme.

One of the most important impacts of the programme is that it brings together a wide range of stakeholders and urban actors. Local and national government, private and informal sector, civil society, non-governmental organization, academia, and research institute representatives join bilateral and multilateral partners to discuss the major challenges and how best to address them.

Such collaboration is advantageous, especially the involvement of target groups, who often know best how to improve living conditions. Innovative planning, programme formulation, and resource mobilization will reinforce partners as they meet the future demands of our growing cities.

BACKGROUND

The islands of Antigua, Barbuda and Redonda make up one nation. They are situated near the centre of the Caribbean archipelago, and are part of the Lesser Antilles and Leeward Islands groupings. They experience tropical maritime climate. There is little seasonal temperature variation, but there is usually an annual dry season that lasts from December to April and a wet season that spans from May to November. The average annual rainfall is around 1,150 millimeters (less than half that of Dominica's or any of the other mountainous Caribbean islands), with periodic droughts (occurring roughly every seven years).

GEOGRAPHY OF ANTIGUA

Antigua, the larger of the two main islands, lies between 61°41' and 61°54' West longitude and 17°0' and 17°11' North latitude. It is roughly circular in shape, approximately 14 miles (22.5 kilometres) wide and 12 miles (19.3 kilometres) long with a jagged/indented coastline, and is 108 square miles and 280 square kilometres in area. Antigua developed from a volcano that rose out of the sea about 34 million years ago, and differs from many other islands in that it contains both volcanic and limestone geological features. It is primarily divided into three geological regions: Northeast Limestone Highlands, Central Clay Plains and Southwest Volcanic Mountains/Hills/Valleys.

GEOGRAPHY OF BARBUDA

The island of Barbuda is 30 miles (48 kilometres) to the north of Antigua and is a near-flat coral island of 62 square miles (161 square kilometres) in area. The island is dominated by a large lagoon on its western side. Two-thirds of the island consists of a flat plain raised only a few feet above sea level. The other third, the highlands, is a relatively flat tableland with a maximum height of 128 feet.

Unlike most of the islands which form the eastern boundary of the Caribbean Sea, Barbuda is not of volcanic origin. The island is limestone and represents a coral reef which was raised above the sea in two successive stages.

In the south, the highlands slope down to meet the plain, and on the eastern windward side, the Atlantic Ocean washes up on rocky headlands. Much of the coastline is characterized by beach sands and fringing coral reefs. The island boasts the finest beaches in the Caribbean (and possibly among the finest in the world), one of which is located at Coco Point with spectacular pink sand. The beautiful Low Bay Beach is over 8 miles long.

There are many spectacular caves (one recently discovered cave system on the northern coast is said to rival the famous Harrison Caves of Barbados) and sink-holes (one of the most spectacular and well-known is called, “Darby”).

REDONDA

The tiny uninhabited dependency of Redonda is a rocky volcanic islet about 35 miles to the south-west, and is 0.6 square miles (1.6 square kilometres) in extent. It is a nature reserve and has significant deposits of guano.

BACKGROUND

INTRODUCTION

Urban Profiling

The Antigua and Barbuda National Urban Profiling consists of an accelerated, action-oriented assessment of urban conditions, focusing on priority needs, capacity gaps, and existing institutional responses at local and national levels. The purpose of the study is to develop urban poverty reduction policies at local, national, and regional levels, through an assessment of needs and response mechanisms, and as a contribution to the wider-ranging implementation of the Millennium Development Goals. The study is based on analysis of existing data and a series of interviews with all relevant urban stakeholders, including local communities and institutions, civil society, the private sector, development partners, academics, and others. The consultation typically results in a collective agreement on priorities and their development into proposed capacity-building and other projects that are all aimed at urban poverty reduction. The urban profiling is being implemented in 30 African, Caribbean and Pacific countries, offering an opportunity for comparative regional analysis. Once completed, this series of studies will provide a framework for central and local authorities and urban actors, as well as donors and external support agencies.

METHODOLOGY

The Participatory Slum Upgrading Programme consists of three phases:

Phase one consists of the rapid profiling of urban conditions at national and local levels. The capital city, a medium-sized city, and a small town are selected and studied to provide a representative sample in each country. The analysis focuses on seven themes; governance; slums and shelter; safety and security, gender and HIV/AIDS; disaster management, climate change and the environment; cultural heritage; basic urban services; and land. Information is collected through standard interviews and discussions with institutions and key informants, in order to assess the strengths, weaknesses, opportunities, and threats (SWOT) of the national and local urban set-ups. The findings are presented and refined during city and national consultation workshops and consensus is reached regarding priority interventions. National and city reports synthesise the information collected and outline ways forward to reduce urban poverty through holistic approaches.

Phase two builds on the priorities identified through pre-feasibility studies and develops detailed capacity-building and capital investment projects.

Phase three implements the projects developed during the two earlier phases, with an emphasis on skills development, institutional strengthening, and replication.

This report presents the outcomes of **Phase One** at the local level in Antigua and Barbuda.

URBAN PROFILING IN ANTIGUA AND BARBUDA

The urban profiling in Antigua and Barbuda is one three similar exercises conducted in Malawi; the other urban profiling centres are St. Johns and All Saints.

Representatives from Antigua and Barbuda who included local and national government, private and informal sector representatives as well as civil society and Non-Governmental Organizations, academia, research institutes, and bilateral and multilateral partners elaborated together where major challenges are and how best to address them. The aim was to develop options for formal inter-agency collaboration in order to create a coordination body integrating a wide range of urban stakeholders in a single response mechanism.

REPORT STRUCTURE

This report consists of:

1. a general background of the urban sector in Antigua and Barbuda, based on the findings of the Antigua and Barbuda City Assessment Report, a desk study, interviews, and a city consultation. The background includes data on administration, urban planning, the economy, the informal and private sector, urban poverty, infrastructure, water, sanitation, public transport, street lighting, energy, health, and education;
2. a synthetic assessment of the following seven main thematic areas: governance; slums and shelter; safety and security, gender and HIV/AIDS; disaster management, climate change and the environment; cultural heritage; basic urban services; and land in terms of the institutional set-up, regulatory framework, resource mobilization, and performance; this second section also highlights agreed priorities and includes a list of identified projects;
3. a SWOT¹ analysis and an outline of priority project proposals for each theme. The proposals include beneficiaries, partners, estimated costs, objectives, activities, and outputs.

¹ SWOT - Strengths, Weaknesses, Opportunities, and Threats

DEMOGRAPHICS

The 2001 Population and Housing Census placed the resident population of Antigua and Barbuda at 76,886. The census had projected the population for the year 2009 to be 85,632 and for 2010 to be 90,801 with 42,642 males and 48,159 females.

In 2006, the crude birth rate was put at 14.7/1,000, the crude death rate was 5.9/1,000 and the infant mortality rate was 16 per 1,000 live births. There were no reported maternal deaths in 2006 and the Total Fertility Rate was 2.24 children per woman. Approximately 30 percent of the population lives in poverty.

There has been up until recently, a steady inflow of immigrants and in 2001, this inflow represented 21.3 percent of the population. Because of more stringent controls now being exercised by both the Immigration and Labour Departments, the inflow of immigrants today is significantly less.

Saint John's City, in Antigua, is the capital city of Antigua and the largest urban centre. The 2001 Population and Housing Census for Antigua and Barbuda estimated St. John's population to be 24,451. The second largest and second most important urban centre is All Saints, located near the centre of Antigua.

TABLE 1:

PRINCIPAL SETTLEMENTS	
Name	Population
Saint John's	24,451
All Saints	3,900
Liberta	2,560
Potters Village	2,066

Source: <http://www.citypopulation.de/Antigua.html>

TABLE 2:

POPULATION BY PARISH			
Parish	Total	Male	Female
	76,886	36,109	40,777
St. John's City	24,451	11,400	13,051
St. John's Rural	20,895	9,754	11,141
St. George's	6,673	3,166	3,507
St. Peter's	5,439	2,595	2,844
St. Phillip's	3,462	1,643	1,819
St. Paul's	7,848	3,652	4,196
St. Mary's	6,793	3,212	3,581
Barbuda	1,325	687	638

Source: 2001 Census of Population and Housing for Antigua and Barbuda.

THE URBAN SITUATION

The first settlement was established by the English in the 17th Century in the southern part of Antigua, in the area now known as Old Road. The growth of sugar demanded many workers and so large numbers of slaves were imported from Africa.

Antigua and Barbuda were surveyed between 1746 and 1748. Antigua was divided into six parishes for civic and social purposes.

TABLE 3:

PARISHES OF ANTIGUA AND BARBUDA

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https://www.yunbaogao.cn/report/index/report?reportId=5_18804

