

**DEVELOPING A STRATEGY
FOR INCORPORATING ACTIVITIES
FOR THE GENERATION OF
INCOME AND EMPLOYMENT**

**WITHIN
HUMAN SETTLEMENTS PROGRAMMES**

**REPORT OF AN EXPERT
GROUP MEETING**





ABOUT
DEVELOPING A STRATEGY FOR INCORPORATING ACTIVITIES FOR THE
GENERATION OF INCOME AND EMPLOYMENT WITHIN HUMAN
SETTLEMENTS PROGRAMMES: REPORT OF AN EXPERT GROUP MEETING,
NAIROBI, 13-17 NOVEMBER 1989
HS/203/90 E
ISBN 92-1-131521-2 (electronic version)

Text source: UNCHS (Habitat) printed publication: ISBN 92-1-131121-7 (originally published in 1990).

This electronic publication was designed/created by Inge Jensen.
This version was compiled on 29 November 2004.
Copyright© 2004 UN-HABITAT.
All rights reserved.

The designations employed and the presentation of the material in this publication do not imply the expression of any opinion whatsoever on the part of the secretariat of the United Nations concerning the legal status of any country, territory, city or area or of its authorities, or concerning the delimitation of its frontiers or boundaries.
This electronic publication has been scanned from the original text, without formal editing by the United Nations.
Excerpts from the text may be reproduced without authorisation, on condition that the source is indicated.

UN-HABITAT publications can be obtained from UN-HABITAT's Regional Offices or directly from:

UN-HABITAT,
Information Services Section,
P.O. Box 30030,
Nairobi 00100, KENYA

Fax: (254) 20-623477 or (624266/7)
E-mail: Habitat.Publications@unhabitat.org
Web-site: <http://www.unhabitat.org/>



**Developing a strategy for incorporating activities for the
generation of income and employment within human
settlements programmes**
**Report of an Expert Group Meeting, Nairobi, 13 -17 November
1989**



Table of Contents

I. Introduction

- A. Background to the Expert Group Meeting
- B. Objectives
- C. Opening and closure of the Meeting
- D. Proceedings of the Meeting
- E. Adoption of report
- F. The report

II. Methodology for strategy formulation

- A. An enabling strategy
- B. Strategy framework
- C. Proposed methodology

III. Proposals for further action

- A. Development of regional and national strategies
- B. Action research through demonstration projects
- C. Research, case studies and documentation
- D. Training
- E. Co-ordination

IV. Proposed strategic responses

- A. Construction and building-materials production sector
- B. Provision and maintenance of urban basic services
- C. Local employment in low-income settlements

V. Institutional support

- A. The regulatory framework
- B. Construction and building-materials production
- C. Provision and maintenance of urban basic services
- D. Local employment in human settlements
- E. Overcoming institutional constraints

Annexes

- I. List of participants
- II. Agenda
- III. Strategy framework - a methodology for developing strategies to stimulate income-generation and employment-creation in low-income human settlements programmes

IV. The methodology for establishing a strategy applied to the construction and building-materials production sector



**Developing a strategy for incorporating activities for the
generation of income and employment within human
settlements programmes**
**Report of an Expert Group Meeting, Nairobi, 13 -17 November
1989**



Notes

1. See Official Records of the General Assembly, Forty-third Session, Supplement No.8, Addendum (A/43/8/Add.1).
2. Report of the Administrative Committee on Co-ordination Task Force on Long-term Development on the work of its fifteenth session, held at New York from 8 to 12 September 1987 (ACC/1987/14), para. 42.
3. Commission on Human Settlements resolution 12/14 of 2 May 1989, para. 1. For the full text of the resolution, see Official Records of the General Assembly, Forty-third Session, Supplement No.8 (A/43/8), annex I.
4. Official Records of the General Assembly, Forty-third Session, Supplement No 8, Addendum (A/43/8/Add.1), para. 89.
5. Official Records of the General Assembly, Forty-third Session, Supplement No.8, Addendum (A/43/8/Add.1), para. 108.



**Developing a strategy for incorporating activities for the
generation of income and employment within human
settlements programmes**
**Report of an Expert Group Meeting, Nairobi, 13 -17 November
1989**



Chapter I. Introduction

A. Background to the Expert Group Meeting

1. The shortage or non-availability of adequate low-income housing for the rapidly increasing populations of developing countries, escalating unemployment and underemployment and the growing sub-national inequalities in many of those countries call for immediate attention and decisive action by governments and the international community. This situation is especially felt by the low-income sections of society, in particular, the urban poor.

2. Efforts by public authorities to increase the housing stock have not kept pace with the growing need, and attempts by governments to provide minimum standard housing through publicly-subsidized housing programmes have demonstrated that many low-income households are incapable of paying for even the simplest standard house. Although special housing programmes such as sites-and-services and upgrading schemes involving self-help activities by the residents have been more affordable to lower- income households than has conventional public housing, these programmes have rarely reached the poorest sectors of society.

3. The main constraint to delivering housing for the lowest- income groups is their poverty. Their incomes are too meagre or too unstable to permit the commitment of scarce resources to investment in shelter. Poverty is not only a condition of insufficient income but also a function of lack of access to land or security of tenure, to information and to active participation in decision-making processes affecting the lives of low-income people. First and foremost, a strategy for reaching poor people must focus on the generation of income and the creation of employment, to enable them to improve their living conditions in general and their housing in particular.

4. Income is normally generated through employment, although the type of employment varies widely. In terms of creating employment opportunities for the poor, it is recognized that only a small proportion will obtain employment in the public sector or in medium-size and large-scale enterprises, sometimes referred to as the 'formal sector'. The majority will gain employment and income in what has been described as the "informal sector", in micro-enterprises and small-scale businesses.

5. Experience with cost-recovery and loan-repayment components of housing or human settlements projects indicates that "improved" housing conditions can have serious effects on levels of loan-repayments or rents, making them unaffordable to low-income households who are thus forced out of schemes or left worse off than they were before. Increasing the earnings of low- income families, therefore, becomes essential for any shelter- delivery system to be successful.

6. A housing strategy for reaching the poor must also address construction codes and building standards, so that minimal shelter requirements match the payment capacities of low-income households. An equally important measure is the mobilization of locally-produced building materials, locally-adapted technology and local manpower resources, to lower building costs. Shelter construction through the private informal sector also promises substantial reductions in costs.

7. The construction industry itself offers a great potential for employment and income-generation. It is a relatively labour-intensive industry and strong in its demand for semi-skilled and unskilled labour. Marginal investment costs per person employed in the construction sector are relatively low. Its strong backward links with the building-materials industry create a demand for locally-produced materials, thus creating additional employment opportunities.

8. The provision of basic services also offers opportunities for income-generation as the

public sector can enter into partnerships with the private sector and community organizations to provide services which in many cases have been withdrawn through lack of public funds and public management capacities.

9. Unauthorized low-income settlements, such as squatter areas, and legal low-income settlements, such as slums and sites-and-services schemes, are often characterized by a lack of formal employment opportunities. The generation of employment and the promotion of trading and services activities and of building-materials production and other manufacturing enterprises within such communities will improve the socio-economic situation of residents and support upgrading of shelter and services in the settlements.

10. In the context of developing human settlements, the location of income-generating activities is extremely important. The workplace for these activities is more often than not in or around the house. The combination of living and working place is characteristic of small-scale economic activities. This is particularly true where women, who represent a large proportion of small-scale entrepreneurs, have to combine household work with informal economic activities. Integrating employment-generating activities with shelter development programmes is a promising approach to solving the dual problem of improving both the housing and the economic situation of the poor.

11. The Expert Group Meeting on Developing a Strategy for Incorporating Income - and Employment-generating Activities in Human Settlements Programmes, which was organized and financed by the United Nations Centre for Human Settlements (Habitat), was called to discuss and advise on these issues.



**Developing a strategy for incorporating activities for the
generation of income and employment within human
settlements programmes**
**Report of an Expert Group Meeting, Nairobi, 13 -17 November
1989**



Chapter I. Introduction

B. Objectives

12. The purpose of the Expert Group Meeting was to develop a strategy for incorporating employment-generating activities in housing projects or human settlements programmes. Emphasis was placed on the promotion of income-generation and employment-creation through the indigenous construction sector and through building-materials production appropriate for low-income housing. Income-generating activities outside the construction sector were also considered along with employment in the provision and maintenance of urban basic services.

13. A secondary objective of the Meeting was to elicit ideas for applied research projects that could be initiated by the Centre, to demonstrate the links between shelter, settlements and economic development.

预览已结束，完整报告链接和二维码如下：

https://www.yunbaogao.cn/report/index/report?reportId=5_19435

