

This month UN-Habitat Donor Brief features a story from beneficiaries in Iraq; Highlights from the high level independent panel meeting, donor survey, the ongoing Urban October, Dubai International Best Practise Awards and our regular financial updates.



FEEDBACK

HIGHLIGHTS

Member states support strengthening of UN-Habitat at high level meeting on New Urban Agenda

At a meeting on 5-6 September, to discuss a report of the High Level Independent Panel to assess and enhance the effectiveness of UN-Habitat, Member States expressed strong support for UN-Habitat and its strengthening. The UN Deputy Secretary-General endorsed UN-Habitat as the agency to play a leading role to ensure that urban expertise is strong across all UN agencies so that the UN can respond coherently to deliver results. She believed that UN-Habitat is the right vehicle to provide a coordinating mechanism to harmonize cross-sectoral capacities and bolster operational urban work.

UN-Habitat expertise commended in donor survey

Around 40 donors including our most important development partners responded to the UN-Habitat donor survey. Survey respondents commended the agency's partnerships, expertise, good track record, and leadership in the sustainable urban agenda. They also recommended improved efficiency of operations, funding for core normative work and communicating the impact of our work. The full report will be published on our donor website once it is finalized. Thanks to all who participated.

Urban October

Join us in promoting a better urban future in Urban October. Raise awareness online by posting your views on Twitter and Facebook using #HabitatDay #UrbanOctober #CitiesDay, and tag us @unhabitat when sharing your celebrations of World Habitat Day on 2 October and World Cities on 31 October.



Over 500 applications for Dubai International Best Practice Awards

More than 500 applications have been received for the 2017 Dubai International Awards for Best Practices. The award recognizes outstanding initiatives with positive impact on improving the living environment. Held every two years, it is open to national and regional governments, local authorities, non-governmental and community organizations, multilateral agencies, research institutions, foundations, media entities and individuals. This year, the award will take into consideration SDG 11 to *make cities make cities and human settlements inclusive, safe, resilient and sustainable*. A technical advisory committee and international jury will select ten winning entries from five categories. Winners, will receive prizes ranging from US\$15,000-30,000 at a ceremony next year. The award is sponsored by the **Dubai Municipality**.

Check out the new features on our donor website

Thanks to your positive feedback and suggestions, we have added new features to the UN-Habitat donor website. We show all partners that UN-Habitat work with in each country and you can now see how the agency's income is distributed across the different regions and strategic urban themes. If you want more information featured on the site, send us an email at donor.relations@unhabitat.org.

FROM OUR BENEFICIARIES

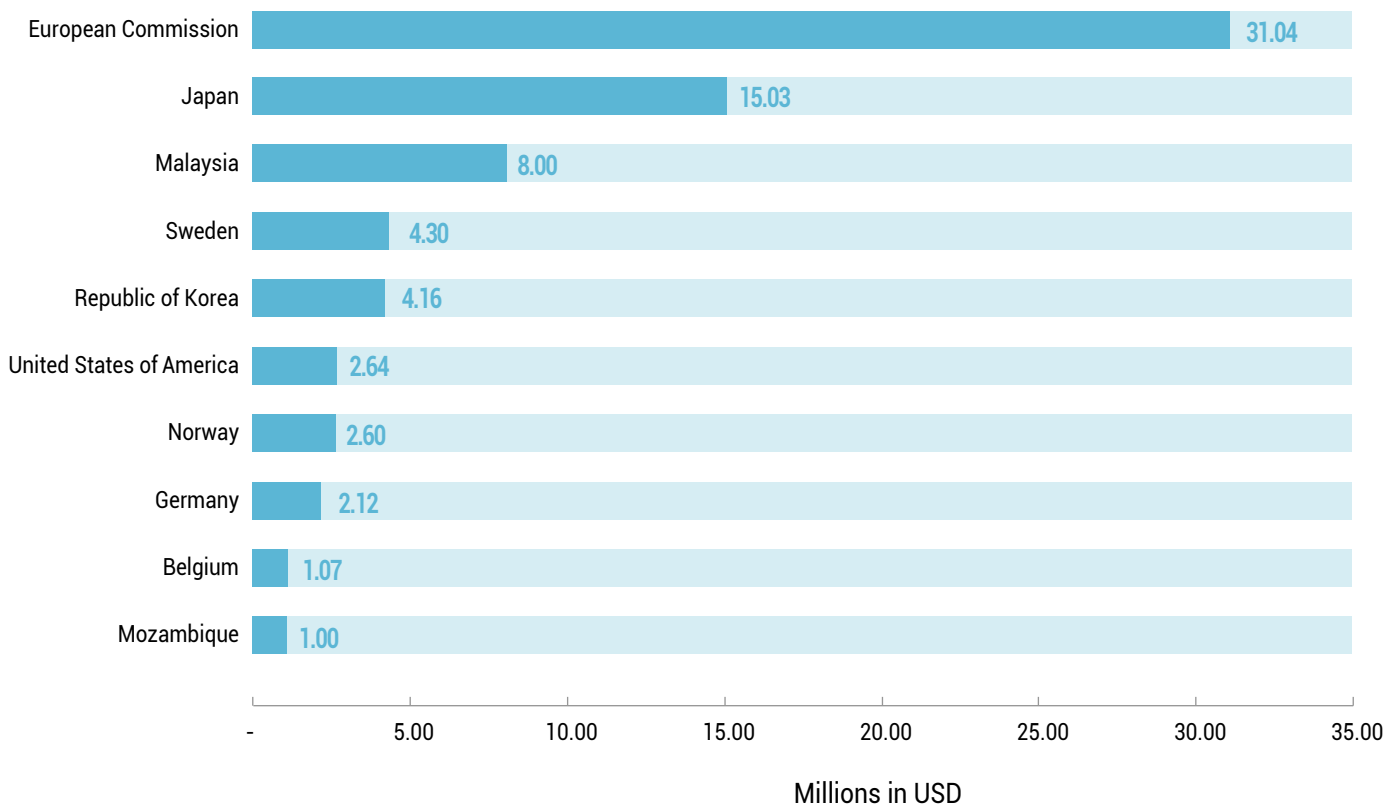


The conflict with ISIL in Iraq caused the displacement of more than 3.4 million Iraqis from their homes since 2014 and more than 700,000 live in temporary shelters. Over 20,000 people have been accommodated in 12 settlements thanks to funding from the **Government of the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia**, the **Government of Japan** and the **Government of Germany** through the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP)'s Iraq Crisis Response and Resilience Programme. The features of the settlements established by UN-Habitat in nine affected areas across the country provide water, sanitation, road network, health clinics, women's social centers and schools.

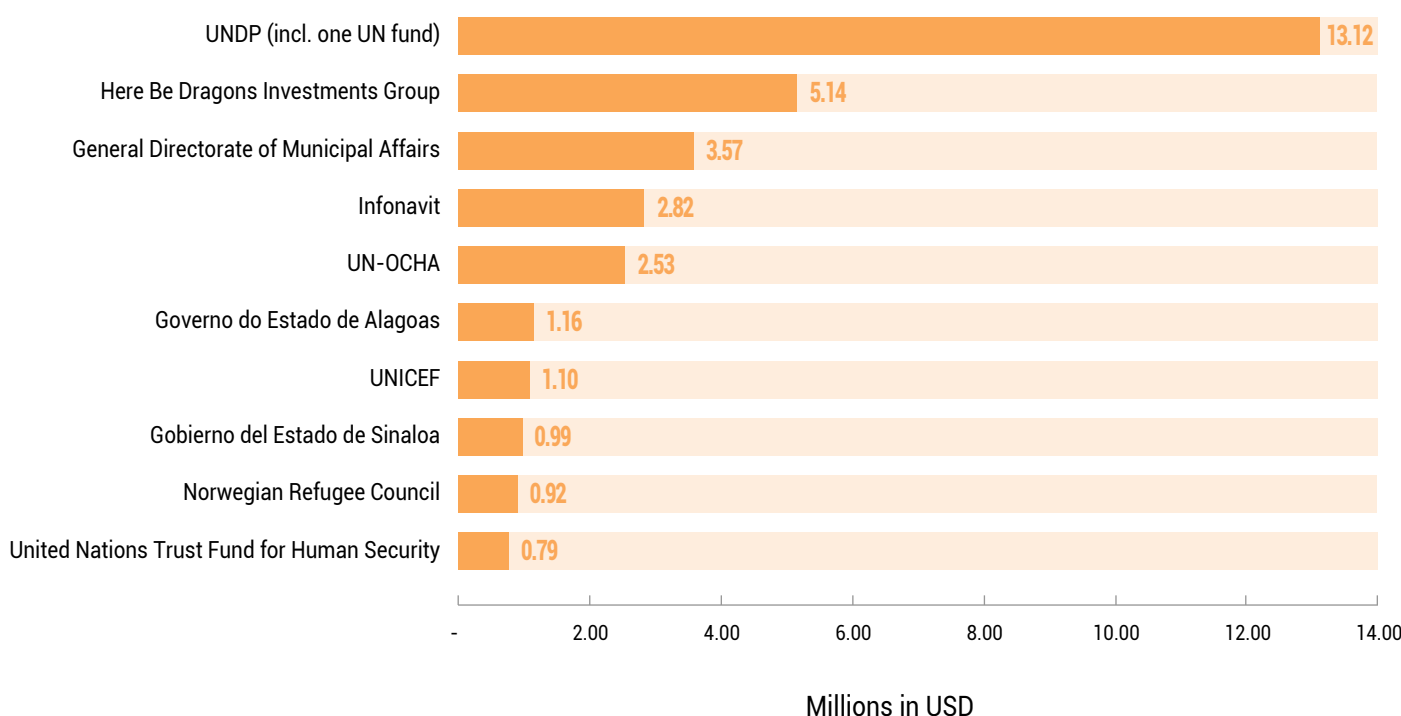
"We are no longer afraid" A Yazidi returnee from Sinjar narrates. [Click here to watch!](#)

FINANCIAL UPDATE

Highest value grants from Governments January-August 2017



Highest value grants from local governments and other donors January-August 2017



Since our last newsletter in June, We are glad to welcome new donor **Zambia** for their support to core funding for core normative activities of UN-Habitat and **Barbados** for their increased contribution as well as other countries who continued to support this core work.

We are also pleased to announce new grants from several Governments. **Malaysia** gave funding for the ninth session of the World Urban Forum which the country is hosting, **Sweden** gave support for a good governance programme in **Kosovo**, and the **USA** for an urban development initiative in **Haiti**, for rehabilitating and regularizing settlements for IDPs in **Iraq**, and for a water and sanitation programme in **Myanmar**. Also, **Norway** renewed its support for UN-Habitat's normative work, **Mozambique** provided support for emergency recovery in the north and central part of their country, **Belgium's** support in the promotion of human rights and creation public spaces in **Gaza** and **Germany** for climate resilience in urban planning in the **Philippines**.

New support was also received from non-Governmental donors. These include support from the **Afghan Government General Directorate of Municipal Affairs** for the Citizens' Charter Afghanistan project to strengthen governance of urban communities so they can plan and monitor local service delivery in an accountable way. In **Mexico**, the **Instituto del Fondo Nacional de la Vivienda para los Trabajadores** (Infonavit), the Mexican federal institute for workers' housing, is sponsoring a programme to put housing as a central element for reaching the Sustainable Development Goals. The **Governo do Estado de Alagoas, Brazil**, is supporting sustainable and inclusive urban prosperity with a special focus on slums in its capital, **Maceió**, and the **Gobierno del Estado de Sinaloa in Mexico** is providing funding to develop a strategic urban public policy framework aligned with Agenda 2030, and for its implementation at the local level.

