The Ethiopian Government and UN-Habitat are working together to design of Ethiopia’s outdoor markets and apply to host the biennial premier conference on cities is now extended to May on COVID-19 related challenges from basic services, shelter, safety and security to wages, social and policy and it is hoped that the approach can be replicated other countries.

Meanwhile in Kenya, UN-Habitat is working with partners to map facilities, services and its outcomes is being scaled up in the Union of Comoros, and its successful strategies for collective action and advocacy. Other current areas of collaboration include stakeholders’ contribution to the State of Cities Report on post-COVID-19. UN-Habitat has reprogrammed USD 4 million of pandemic’s economic impact and post-COVID-19 recovery. USD 72 million is needed to meet the gaps.

In addition to engaging partners through the COVID-19 Campaign, UN-Habitat’s Partnering on COVID-19, launched in May 2020, is supporting cities to respond to the pandemic. UN-Habitat encourages cities to share their experience and lessons learned and to join in a global knowledge exchange. UN-Habitat is also working with local governments to strengthen their capacity to respond to COVID-19 and to lay the foundation for recovery.

UN-Habitat helps municipalities undertake rapid assessment of COVID-19 challenges in Lebanon and its outcomes is being scaled up in the Union of Comoros, to identify and support best practices.

In Argentina, UN-Habitat launched a COVID-19 related project to work through the project to rehabilitate war damaged houses in the city of Mosul, who is finally receiving an income to support his family. Amina Omar says: “It is very important to know that we have someone we can count on during this pandemic. The pandemic has been a great challenge, but the government is always there to support us”.

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