Habitat International Coalition

HIC Human Rights Habitat Observatory

What Is HIC's Human Rights Habitat Observatory?

HIC HRHO is a new collective initiative established by HIC, its Housing and Land Rights Network (HIC-HLRN) and Members to pose solutions and influence national and international debates and efforts to implement, monitor and evaluate the new global agendas, including the 2030 Sustainable Development Agenda and its goals (SDGs), the Paris Agreement on climate change and the New Urban Agenda (NUA) with the framework of states' human rights obligations.

HIC HRHO integrates and reflects the historic and current composition of HIC since 1976, convening community-based organizations, large and small nongovernmental organizations, academic and research centers, professional associations, social movements and concerned individuals for over 40 years. Through HIC, these diverse and complementary partners share their expertise, competence and struggles as assets that form the basis for the Observatory.

HIC HRHO also seeks to ensure that any new iteration of global policy and implementation does not regress in states' prior policy commitments or their obligations under international law, in particular human rights treaties.

How Does the Human Rights Habitat Observatory Work?

HIC HRHO coordinates efforts of HIC's Members through its regional and thematic Structures pooling and sharing knowledge, while raising the capacity and competence of HIC to monitor, uphold and develop the Sustainable Development System on its promised human rights basis.

HIC HRHO informs and strengthens capacity of HIC Members by optimizing training, tools and solidarity to analyze policy and advocate local and global policy coherence to harmonize short-term humanitarian interventions with longer-term institutional development approaches inside the overarching framework of human rights with their intended preventive and remedial effects.

The HRHO seeks further convergence of HIC Members' and allies' efforts to restore the "habitat" approach, as promised in the Habitat Agenda, that treats villages and cities as points on a human settlements continuum within a common ecosystem. This "habitat" approach promises to foster greater cooperation and convergence among urban, rural and indigenous social movements to sustain the planet through practical solidarity.

Who Can Be Part of the Human Rights Habitat Observatory?

HIC HRHO functions entail collaboration with and among HIC Members and allies working in the field of Human Rights Habitat and related fields (e.g., climate change, gender issues, land defense).

HIC HRHO embraces the efforts of partners working in both rural and urban areas, in local and global spheres who fight for remedy and accountability for violations of habitat rights wherever they are found.

As always, HIC prioritizes its advocacy, knowledge creation and other services and functions to benefit social groups subject to discrimination, marginalization and impoverishment.

HIC HRHO offers a chance also for HIC Members and allies in academic and technical fields to seize the historic moment by channeling meaningful contributions to rethinking sustainable development within the framework
and methods of human rights.

For more information please contact hlrn@hlrn.org and gs@hic-net.org


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