

# KENSUP Projects within UN-HABITAT

# 3

## 3.1 Main Areas of Focus

UN-HABITAT has been involved in several KENSUP projects since 2002, and most of the projects focus on 1) mapping the target communities through situation analyses and socio-economic and physical mapping, 2) capacity building of the local authorities and the local communities, and 3) provision of other technical advice to the KENSUP partners. Some of the projects, on the other hand, have 4) pilot components that are aimed at finding suitable slum upgrading models for replication and upscaling.

UN-HABITAT is involved in the following KENSUP projects;

- Kibera Slum Upgrading Initiative, Nairobi;
- Cities without Slums, Kisumu;
- Sustainable Neighbourhood Programme, Mavoko;
- Mombasa Slum Upgrading Programme;
- Provision of Basic Services in Selected Slum Settlements in Nairobi – Kahawa Soweto;
- Kibera Integrated Water, Sanitation and Waste Management Project, Nairobi;
- Kiandutu Slum Youth Project, Thika; *and*
- Youth Empowerment Programme, Kibera and Mavoko.

Detailed descriptions of all the above projects are included in the appendix. Below, UN-HABITAT's main areas of focus and their strengths and weaknesses are examined.

### Situation Analysis

A starting point for UN-HABITAT's involvement in slum upgrading is often a situation analysis where the conditions in slums are assessed. For example, in Kisumu, an in-depth analysis of the conditions in informal settlements, as well as an assessment of the past efforts to upgrade slums in Kisumu was undertaken through an inclusive and collaborative process. The published situation analysis examines the political, social, physical, economic, cultural and institutional factors that have an impact on Kisumu's slums. As a solution, it proposes an integrated approach to slum upgrading, singling out issues of security of land tenure, improvement of basic infrastructure, and housing, access to health and social services, and environmental management. It sets out priorities for each settlement, as well as a common action plan. Similar interventions have been undertaken at the inception of UN-HABITAT's other activities within KENSUP.

The strength of these interventions is their inclusive nature as all relevant stakeholders are on board. It is deemed critical that all those who have a stake in slum upgrading are part of the initial assessment process in order to ensure that

the follow-up interventions sufficiently reflect the realities on the ground. Additionally, it is imperative that stakeholders are fully involved from the start of the process, as this is the only way to ensure the sustainability of the intervention. A serious limitation of UN-HABITAT's activities in undertaking situation analysis is to translate the actual findings and recommendations into reality so that they do not remain as one-off exercises but they lead into concrete activities, and therefore, it is important that more efforts are made in order to ensure that this is done.

## Capacity Building

The capacity building efforts of the local authorities have focused on improving their planning capacities to cater for the sprawling development of their cities. For instance, in Kisumu, the activities supported by UN-HABITAT focused on establishing a GIS lab at the Municipal Council of Kisumu aimed at improving revenue collection efficiency and transparency. The GIS Secretariat was trained on the use of the facility, and it was also equipped with appropriate technology to run it. In capacity building efforts, it is important that the interventions are followed through in order to ensure that they are sustainable and are able to maintain themselves after UN-HABITAT has left. This is not easy to do and therefore, there is a need ensure that potential longer-term interventions are factored in the budgets in order to allow for monitoring and possible follow-up interventions in order to ensure sustainability.

UN-HABITAT's activities also focus on building the capacities of the local communities, for instance in organising themselves and negotiating with the authorities about their needs and priorities. In the Sustainable Neighbourhood Programme in Mavoko some of the community representatives were trained on participatory methodology in developing and implementing Community Action Plans aimed at facilitating the communities to take charge of issues affecting them, such as garbage collection, security and HIV/AIDS.

## Provision of Technical Advice

UN-HABITAT regularly provides technical advice to its KENSUP partners. For instance, in the Kibera Integrated Water and Sanitation Initiative, UN-HABITAT assisted in the design and supervision of the road construction works in order to ensure that the mobility needs of the community are considered; and to guarantee that the community is involved throughout the implementation phase. Further, UN-HABITAT collaborated in designing sanitation (two types of toilet blocks) and waste holding facilities (e.g. chemical waste, door to door garbage collection and recycling options), and on identifying suitable sites for construction of sanitation facilities. The provision of technical advice to UN-HABITAT's KENSUP partners is a key ingredient of UN-HABITAT's involvement in slum upgrading in Kenya as it has specialised expertise in the various areas relevant for slum upgrading and therefore, it is important that this is shared with the partners.

## Pilot Components

In Mavoko, Mombasa and Kibera Integrated Water and Sanitation Initiative, the aim is to carry out demonstration projects and test new strategies contributing to slum upgrading. In Mavoko, UN-HABITAT is involved in the facilitation of a self-help housing project, which is a pilot aimed at finding suitable community-driven self-help housing models for replication and upscaling. In the Kibera Water and Sanitation Initiative, the aim is to test the use of water and sanitation as entry points to slum upgrading, and how it can reduce the cost of housing for slum dwellers. As UN-HABITAT's role is to

find new, innovative solutions to the housing crisis, it is important that it develops new and sustainable models for replication, and therefore, pilot projects are an essential component of UN-HABITAT's activities within KENSUP.

## 3.2 New Areas of Focus

As KENSUP has moved to the Human Settlement Financing Division within UN-HABITAT, the activities will have a slightly new focus as they will be guided by the Water, Sanitation and Infrastructure Branch, the Slum Upgrading Facility, and the Urban Finance Section. It is important to examine these new areas of focus in greater detail.

### Water, Sanitation and Infrastructure Branch

UN-HABITAT's Water and Sanitation Programme is funded by the Water and Sanitation Trust Fund. Its main focus is improving delivery of water and sanitation in African and Asia through its regional programmes, Water for African Cities and Water for Asian Cities. It does so by promoting policy dialogue, information exchange, water education and awareness raising. It also monitors progress towards achieving the Millennium Development Goal (MDG) targets on improving access to safe water and sanitation and undertakes replicable model-setting initiatives, notably the Lake Victoria Region Water and Sanitation and Mekong Regional Water and Sanitation initiatives.

The highest priority for UN-HABITAT's Water and Sanitation programme is improving access to safe water and helping provide adequate sanitation to millions of low-income urban dwellers and measuring its impact. World leaders meeting at the United Nations Millennium Summit in 2000 committed themselves to attaining the MDG 7, target 10 which aims to *reduce by half the proportion of people without sustainable access to safe drinking water by 2015*. In 2002, the World Summit on Sustainable Development in Johannesburg added another target: *to halve by 2015, the proportion of people who do not have access to basic sanitation*.

The Water, Sanitation and Infrastructure Branch's aims and strategies are affecting UN-HABITAT's involvement in the KENSUP as it will bring a new focus of basic infrastructure provision, such as water and sanitation, as an entry point to slum upgrading.

### Slum Upgrading Facility

The global Slum Upgrading Facility (SUF) is designed to mobilise domestic capital for urban upgrading activities. It does so by facilitating links among local actors, and helping prepare local projects for potential investment by international donors and financial institutions, and, potentially, investors in the global capital markets – with the specific intent of leveraging further, domestic capital for slum upgrading. Its key clients are municipal authorities, civil and non-governmental organisations, central government departments, as well as the local, private sector, including retail banks, property developers, housing finance institutions, service providers, micro-finance institutions, and utility companies. It was established in 2005 in response to General Assembly Resolution A/56/206 of 2001 strengthening the United Nations Habitat and Human Settlements Foundation.

The SUF comprises a small team of specialists on international and domestic financial institutions and financing models. Their task is to seek out and develop mechanisms to mobilise domestic savings and capital for affordable housing, and to liaise between financing institutions and the normative and technical cooperation activities of UN-HABITAT.

The Human Settlements Financing Division works with the Cities Alliance, a collaborative initiative of the World Bank Group and UN-HABITAT, to improve conditions of cities in the developing world. SUF works with international donor facilities such as the Private Infrastructure Development Group, international financial institutions including the World Bank Group, International Bank for Reconstruction and Development, International Finance Corporation and the Asian Development Bank. Other partners are United Cities and Local Governments (UCLG), Slum and Shack Dwellers International, and the UN-HABITAT Governing Council. With initial funding of about USD 1.8 million from the Governments of the United Kingdom and Sweden, the SUF identified potential operations in ten countries in Africa and Asia, and is now conducting pilot programmes in four selected countries - Ghana, Indonesia, Sri Lanka, and Tanzania. The SUF Pilot Programme has a budget of USD 18.8 million from the Governments of Norway, Sweden and the United Kingdom

The Facility is being designed to work with governments, people living in slums and local financial institutions to mobilise investments for slum upgrading. Its objective is to develop, test and apply new and innovative means of financing pro-poor urban development with a strong emphasis on the mobilisation of domestic capital.

SUF is influencing UN-HABITAT'S activities within KENSUP in a positive way. SUF is expected to lead the way in regards to the housing finance issues within KENSUP and it is at the forefront of developing UN-HABITAT's financing strategy for KENSUP. It is clear that housing cooperatives will play an important role and UN-HABITAT offers its full support to these processes within KENSUP.

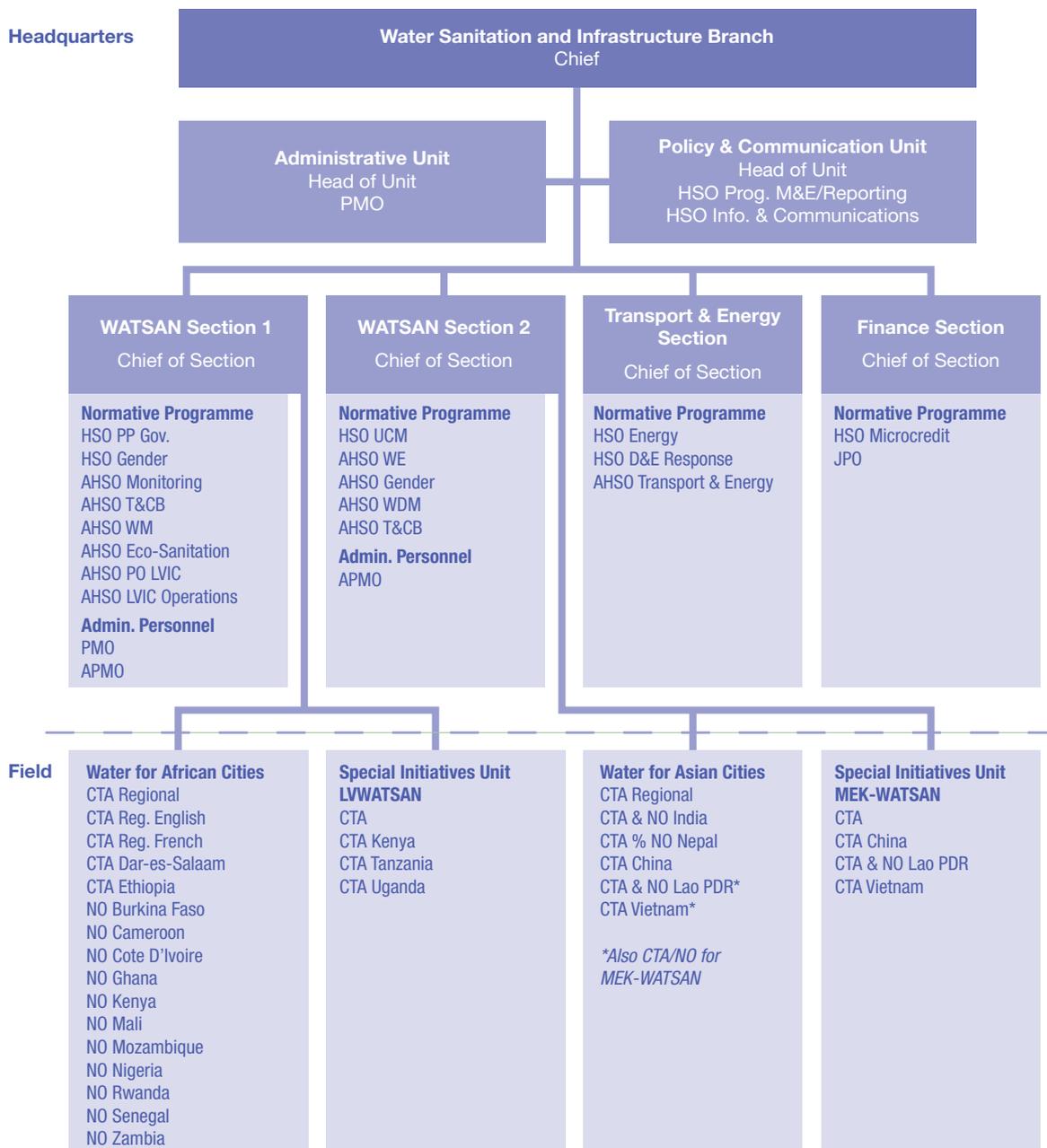
### **3.3 Impact of UN-HABITAT's Activities**

UN-HABITAT's activities within KENSUP have had a multiplier effect in Kenya. The support of UN-HABITAT and other donors has helped to increase the GoK's political commitment to slum upgrading. The GoK now has extensive KENSUP Implementation and Financing Strategies.

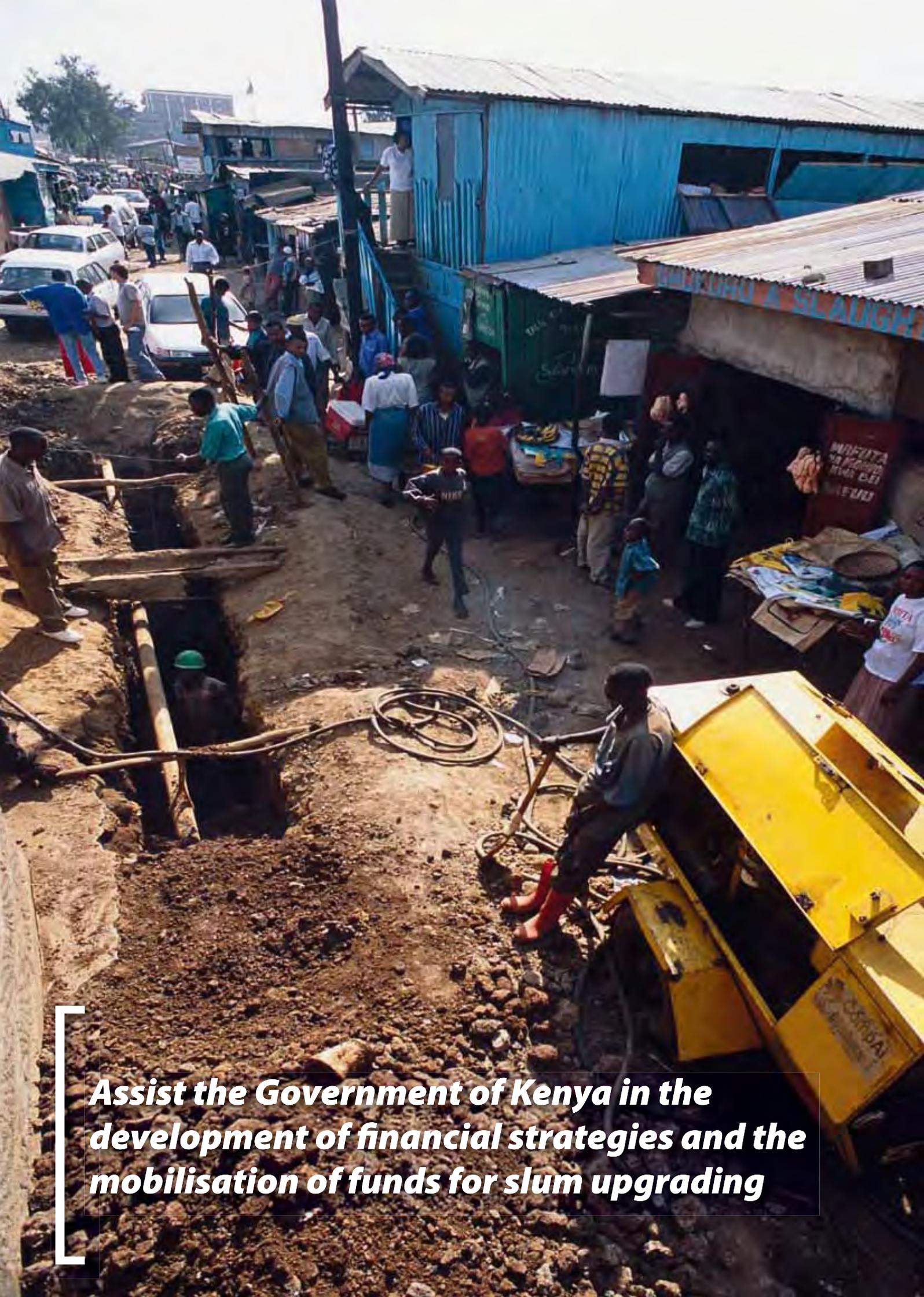
KENSUP has improved the awareness of the urban stakeholders that there is a need to change the living conditions of people living in slums, that it is not acceptable anymore that a majority of the urban population lives in extremely poor conditions. Further, as KENSUP requires collaboration between the relevant ministries in Kenya (such as the Ministry of Housing, Ministry of Lands, Ministry of Cooperatives, Ministry of Road and Public Works, Ministry of Local Government, Ministry of Gender, Sports and Culture), it has led to increased collaboration between the different ministries and other agencies in the slum upgrading process.

KENSUP has also improved the understanding and commitment of slum dwellers themselves to slum upgrading. They are now willing to contribute to the improvement of their living conditions, which is an important step. UN-HABITAT is hoping that slum dwellers now realise that in order to have a lasting improvement in their living conditions, they themselves need to participate and take responsibility for it. Additionally, UN-HABITAT's involvement has led to the establishment of the Kenya Slum Upgrading Fund (KENSUF), which has received an initial budgetary allocation of Kenya shillings 20 Million (USD 250,000). UN-HABITAT's involvement has also led to increased donor interest, particularly in the related land sector.

## Water, Sanitation and Infrastructure Branch - Organogram



AHSO	Associate Human Settlements Officer	PMO	Project Management Officer
CTA	Chief Technical Advisor	PO LVIC	Programme Officer Lake Victoria Initiative
D&E Respon	Disaster and Emergency Response	PP Gov.	Pro-Poor Governance
HSO	Human Settlements Officer	T&CB	Training and Capacity Building
JPO	Junior Programme Officer	WDM	Water Demand Management
M&E	Monitoring and Evaluation	WE	Water Education
NO	National Officer		



***Assist the Government of Kenya in the development of financial strategies and the mobilisation of funds for slum upgrading***