



WORLD
URBAN
FORUM



UNEP WUF13 Engagement


May 17–22, 2026 - Baku, Azerbaijan



The [13th World Urban Forum \(WUF13\)](#), taking place in Baku, Azerbaijan, is a global platform for dialogue, collaboration, and action on sustainable urban development. Under the theme “*Housing the World: Safe and Resilient Cities and Communities*”, WUF13 will highlight the urgent need to address the global housing crisis, explore practical solutions, and position housing as a driver of inclusive, resilient, and sustainable urban futures. With nearly 3 billion people facing inadequate housing, the Forum will convene policymakers, practitioners, city leaders, and civil society to share knowledge, exchange experiences, and shape actionable strategies for safe, equitable, and climate-resilient cities.

[UNEP will be actively engaging](#) at WUF13 to amplify the role of cities in addressing climate, energy, and sustainability challenges. Through policy dialogues, partner-led events, and technical sessions, UNEP will support city leaders in leveraging evidence-based solutions for climate-resilient housing, green infrastructure, and inclusive urban development. By connecting local, national, and international actors, UNEP aims to strengthen coalitions, showcase innovative urban solutions, and reinforce the link between sustainable housing, climate action, and the broader Sustainable Development Goals.

 **Dates for subnational engagement:** May 17–22, 2026

 **Location:** Baku, Azerbaijan

Summary of key events with speaking opportunities:

Date	Time UTC+4	Event title	Description
19 May	09:00 - 09:30	Decarbonizing Housing Stock: Scaling Solutions for Affordability, Resilience, and Net-Zero Futures <i>Location: Canada Pavilion</i>	Canada Pavilion Event organized by UNEP to explore how decarbonization of housing can be positioned as a core pillar of urban housing strategy, using Canada as an example, and how multi-level governance, research, and innovation ecosystems can support scalable, investable solutions, ensuring that housing expansion contributes to climate targets and urban development.



19 May	11:00 – 12:30	<u>Early Warning and Climate-Resilient Cities</u> <i>Location: Azerbaijani Pavilion, Baku Olympic Stadium</i>	Azerbaijani Pavilion Event organized by the Ministry of Ecology and Natural Resources of the Republic of Azerbaijan, with UNEP and IPCC, to discuss how to strengthen urban climate resilience through multi-hazard early warning systems.
19 May	12:00 – 13:00	<u>Foundations of Fairness: Why the Global Status of Buildings Determines our Climate and Housing Future</u>	Urban Library event organized by the French Ministry of Ecological Transition and Territorial Cohesion in partnership with UNEP/GlobalABC and BPIE.
19 May	12:00 – 13:30	<u>Policy Pathways for Advancing Adequate Housing through Circular Construction</u>	SDGs in Action Event organized by the GlobalABC Circular Built Environment group and the Ministry of Environment of Finland, in partnership with UN-Habitat, UNEP, UNOPS, Government of Bangladesh, Government of Senegal, Government of Ukraine, RMIT University, and Habitat for Humanity International, to discuss existing good practices related to circular construction policies and related gaps that would need to be addressed and address related policy challenges, with a specific focus on Bangladesh, Senegal, and Ukraine.
19 May	16:00 - 17:30	<u>Financing Localization of SDGs through Integrating Local Financing Frameworks and Instruments (Local2030 Coalition)</u> <i>Location: One UN Room C</i>	One UN event organized by UNDP, in partnership with UNEP, UNICEF, and UN-Habitat, under the Local2030 Coalition's Working Group 2, highlighting how Integrated Local Financing Frameworks and instruments are advancing the localization of SDG financing.
19 May	16:00 - 17:30	<u>Climate-Resilient Cities and Communities along the Caspian Sea - Unlocking Vertical Climate Finance for Urban Adaptation</u>	One UN Event organized by UN-Habitat with UNEP and IOM to discuss how climate-resilient housing and neighbourhoods in coastal and low-lying Caspian cities can protect households and communities from floods, sea-level fluctuations, extreme heat, and ecosystem degradation through integrated housing, land-use planning, basic services, and NbS.
19 May	16:00 - 17:30	<u>Affordable Housing and Climate Change: 10 years later</u>	Networking event organized by the French Ministry for Housing and Cities with UNEP, UN-Habitat, and



		<i>Location: Multipurpose room 15</i>	the Global Alliance for Buildings and Construction, to reflect on progress since the Paris Agreement and the New Urban Agenda to advance inclusive, affordable, and climate-resilient housing.
20 May	14:00 – 17:00	<u>Breathing Life into the New Urban Agenda: Integrating Air Quality and Green Infrastructure for Resilient Cities</u>	High-level Forum organized by the IDEA Public Union in partnership with UNEP. UNEP’s DED to participate.
20 May	16:00 - 17:30	<u>Housing Resilience as an Urban Systems Challenge</u>	One UN event to be organized by UNDRR in partnership with UNDP, UN-Habitat, UNEP, and UNCDF.
20 May	16:00 - 17:30	<u>Towards an International Landscape Convention. The Foundation for Housing</u> <i>Location: Multipurpose Room 06</i>	High-level networking event organized by IFLA with UN-Habitat, UNEP, and WHO Urban Health, to advance global momentum toward an International Landscape Convention by positioning landscape as essential infrastructure for housing, health, biodiversity, and community resilience.
21 May	12:00 - 13:30	<u>Building Low-Carbon Housing. From National Policy to Local Action</u> <i>Location: One UN Room C</i>	One UN event organized by UNEP in partnership with WRI, UNECE, and UN-Habitat.
21 May	12:00 – 13:30	<u>Shaping safer and resilient cities: Consultation of Draft Policy Brief on Urban Climate Peace and Security</u> <i>Location: ONE UN Room A</i>	One UN event organized by UNDRR and the UNEP Climate Security Mechanism.
21 May	14:00 - 15:30	<u>Strengthening Health Outcomes Through Sustainable Housing Policies: A Multisector Dialogue on Housing and Health</u> <i>Location: One UN room A</i>	ONE UN event organized by WHO in partnership with UNEP, UNICEF, UN-Habitat, UNECE, and UNDRR.
21 May	14:00 - 15:30	From Risk to Resilience-Technical Assistance Driving	Networking event organized by the Ministry of Cities of Brazil and UNEP, to discuss how technical assistance



		<p>Climate Solutions for Cities</p> <p><i>Location: Multipurpose room 06</i></p>	<p>and partnerships can help cities facing climate risks build capacity, mobilize investment, and implement resilient urban adaptation projects.</p>
<p>21 May</p>	<p>16:00 - 17:30</p>	<p><u>From Global Agreements to Local Action: Multi-Level Governance for Sustainable housing and resilient communities</u></p> <p><i>Location: Multipurpose room 5</i></p>	<p>Multi-stakeholder networking event organized by UNEP with IHS–Erasmus University Rotterdam, ICLEI, and UN-Habitat, focused on translating multilateral environmental agreements into local action for sustainable housing and resilient communities in support of SDG 11. The event also marks the launch of the UNEP–IHS White Paper on the evolving role of local and regional governments in the Rio Conventions.</p>
<p>21 May</p>	<p>16:00 - 17:30</p>	<p><u>From Grey to Blue-Green: Water-Responsive Urbanism and Sponge Cities for African Resilient Cities</u></p>	<p>ONE UN Event convened by the African Union under the Aqinile Partnership (AU, UN-Habitat, UNDP, UNEP, UNDRR), to discuss how to scale water-responsive urban resilience through nature-based solutions in African cities.</p>

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