



Urban October is a month of exciting meetings, discussions and events focusing the world's attention on urban issues and sustainable development. Individuals, organizations, cities, communities, and governments at every level are encouraged to take part in activities that highlight the challenges and solutions relating to cities, towns, and communities. Urban October starts with World Habitat Day and ends with World Cities Day.

In 2023, the World Habitat Day, will take place under the theme **Resilient urban economies. Cities as drivers of growth and recovery** and World Cities Day will focus on **Financing sustainable urban future for all**.

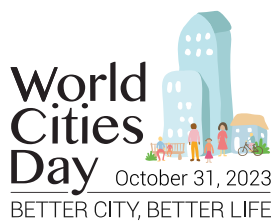


World Habitat Day

2 October 2023

World Habitat Day is held on the first Monday of October each year and launches Urban October. The day centers around the global observance, which is held in a different country each year with keynote speakers and roundtable discussions focused on a specific theme. World Habitat Day was first celebrated in 1986 in Nairobi, Kenya, with the theme 'Shelter is my right'.

On 2 October 2023, the Global Observance of World Habitat Day, under the theme **Resilient urban economies. Cities as drivers of growth and recovery**, will look at how cities can position their economies to benefit residents.



Financing sustainable urban future for all

World Cities Day

31 October 2023

World Cities Day brings Urban October to an end on 31 October and was first celebrated in 2014. As with World Habitat Day, a global observance is held in a different city each year and the day focuses on a specific theme.

This year's global observance is planned to take place on 31 October 2023 under the theme **Financing sustainable urban future for all** and will explore how we can unlock transformative investment in urban planning and achieve adequate fiscal decentralization.



Join us and organize virtual, physical and hybrid activities

We are encouraging national governments, local authorities, the private sector, and other urban practitioners to mark the day by organizing events through workshops or webinars, panel discussions and interviews. The following are suggested events that can be held.

Urban Breakfast

An Urban Breakfast aims to create an inspiring dialogue to reflect on challenges facing sustainable urban development, considering the Sustainable Development Goals and the New Urban Agenda. It can be held at any time.

Urban Breakfasts focus on introducing and discussing regional urban perspectives, with the participation of key speakers from national governments, local authorities, academia, civil society, the private sector, and other stakeholders.

The Urban Journalism Academy

The Urban Journalism Academy (UJA) brings together media professionals who are interested or involved in urban development. They help strengthen journalists' capacity to analyze the overall process of urbanization by sharing with them substantive knowledge about the main issues of planning and management of cities, as well as technical expertise in urban data and indicators. The aim is to create a network of urban journalists that work together in advocating principles of the New Urban Agenda.

Raise awareness in your city or community.

You can get involved by organizing an event or including the following ideas in your event to raise awareness. Please feel free and post your Event and Activity [here](https://urbanoctober.unhabitat.org/). This will be reflected on our website <https://urbanoctober.unhabitat.org/>

Event suggestions include:

- Organize a discussion or debate either physical or online on how your city or community can act and contribute to a carbon-free world and climate resilience.
- Organize a film screening either physical or online to bring people together in a common space and promote local creativity.
- Use this occasion to publicize, reward and demonstrate tangible improvements in urban issues in your community.
- Engage a well-known person or local expert to support your event to bring positive attention to World Habitat Day, World Cities Day, and Urban October as a whole.
- Organize public information campaign, use local actors, musicians, or poets to create awareness of the issues affecting your city or community.
- Approach local media to write articles or do radio or television pieces on the themes or organize interviews or panels policy makers, government officials, academics, journalists, other professionals, and community representatives.
- Essay writing or painting competition can help create awareness of World Habitat Day and World Cities Day in schools and colleges.
- Offer a university lecture or Master class on the theme of World Habitat Day or World Cities Day.
- Organize a capacity building session on the theme of World Habitat Day or World Cities Day
- Organize a picture exhibition on how to make your city or community carbon-free world and climate resilient.
- Launch of reports and projects in relation to the theme of World Habitat Day or World Cities Day.
- Organize a Video interview series on champions of carbon-free world and climate resilience.



- Organize a donation drive to assist your city or community manage issues on carbon-free world and climate resilience.
- Engage in a Twitter chat on the theme of World Habitat Day or World Cities Day.
- Brand your Urban October event by using either the World Habitat Day or World Cities Day **logo or merchandise designs, [here](#)**
- Promote and create a web page or a web banner on your website with information about World Habitat Day and World Cities Day.
- Promote Urban October through social media – Tag your posts for Urban October with #UrbanOctober, for World Habitat Day with #WorldHabitatDay, and for World Cities Day with #WorldCitiesDay.
- Find promotional material to print on: <https://urbanoctober.unhabitat.org/resources>. Promotional material includes logos in English, French, Spanish, Russian, Arabic, logos for T-Shirts, caps, banners, websites, and social media.
- Please visit the **Urban October Trello Board**. This board is your one-stop destination for digital assets and relevant information on World Habitat Day and World Cities Day.

Keep in Touch

After your event, please share with us the event report, photos, videos, and any material about the event, [here](#).

We will publish your event in the 2023 Urban October Report – see the [2022 Urban October Report](#).

Tag us on social media - @UNHABITAT - hashtags #UrbanOctober #WorldHabitatDay #WorldCitiesDay

Connect to UN-Habitat social media



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For more information on Urban October, please visit our website on: <https://urbanoctober.unhabitat.org/>, or send us an email on: unhabitat-events@un.org for Urban October, unhabitat-whd@un.org for World Habitat Day, and unhabitat-wcd@un.org for World Cities Day.



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