

UN-Habitat Urban Youth Fund Mentorship Application 2014

Our mission is to improve the livelihoods of youth, especially those living in slums and unplanned settlements, through their inclusion in governance and the social and economic life of cities.

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About

The UN-Habitat Urban Youth Fund empowers global youth by providing grants and capacity building to selected organizations in developing countries. Yearly, more than 8,000 youth-led organizations start the application processfor a grant of up to \$25,000. Approximately 40 organizations are selected to receive a grant and capacity building supportevery year. These organizations span various sectors, from technology and agriculture to education and poverty reduction.

The Urban Youth Fund's Objectives

To be a gateopener for youth-led groups with limited financial resources To be a laboratory to test and scale successful youth-led development models

To increase participation and engagement of youth-led organizations in the UN

Impact

Since its inception, the Fund has impacted individual lives, communities, and countries. Urban Youth Fund projects have:

- Operated in 172 cities and 66 countries in Africa, Asia and the Pacific, Latin America, and the Caribbean
- Helped youth gain employable skills and opportunities
- Sponsored vocational training and credit mechanisms for entrepreneurship and employment
- Promoted gender equality in urban developments in the global South
- Increased the involvement of young people inlocalgovernance
- Worked to stop sexual harassment of women through the use of ICT
- Mapped informal settlements using GIS tools

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Benefit to Mentors

The UN-Habitat Urban Youth Fund seeksto select mentorsto guide our youth-led organizations to realize their full potential. Once appointed, the individual will be an official part of our UN-Habitat Urban Youth Fund community, with access toa global network of mentors and emerging youth leaders. While unpaid, mentors will receive recognition from the UN-Habitat with an announcement through our communication channels and will make a direct impact on meaningful projects aligning with their interest areas.



Criteria for Mentors

We are seeking mentors to guide and inspire youth leaders through regular Skype and email communication. Our mentors will support strategic visions while also providing tactical, hands-on feedback, creating clarity and accountability and advancing key project success metrics.

Successful mentors will have many or most of the following qualities:

- Ability to offer specific, clear and constructive recommendations to resource-constrained projects
- A passion for working with and guiding young people and youth leaders, especially at the grassroots level
- An understanding of how to support facing economic or political uncertainties
- A track-record of managing teams and navigating multicultural challenges
- Fluency in at least one of the following languages: Spanish, English, or French. The following additional language skills are desirable: Portuguese, Hindi, Urdu, and Arabic
- Ability to deliver clear and consistent bi-weekly updates to the UN-Habitat Youth Fund
- Ability to coach on fundraising and growth initiatives
- Fiveyears of experience in project management
- Working in developing countries or underserved communities is a plus

Expectations and Responsibilities

While all mentors are volunteers, the UN holds all of its volunteers to high ethical and work standards. Our ideal mentors will see this as a long-term (year+) commitment—one that nurtures them while providing invaluable resources to the organizations they guide.

Our mentors should expect to:

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- Commit a minimum of 6 hours per month
- Guide the project coordinator on a range of areas, including project management, fundraising, budgeting, and media and operations issues
- Coordinate with the UN-Habitat Urban Youth Fund team on complex matters and give regular updates
- Provide a structure and a summary for each meeting
- Provide a quarterly evaluation of the organization
- Participate in a global mentor online forum
- Offer specific, constructive feedback while motivating the youth-led organization
- Read the UN-Habitat Urban Youth Fund's project management materials (fewer than 50 pages) and deliver feedback consistent with its recommended best practices

How to Apply

To apply simply answer thequestions below and send your resume to <u>YouthFund.Mentor@unhabitat.org</u>. We will review all applications and set appointments for Skype interviews with select candidates.

Key Questions:

- Why do you want to be a mentor for the UN-Habitat Urban Youth Fund?
- What personal or professional experiences prepare you for this work?
- What is your level of interest in interacting with and enriching other Urban Youth Fund mentors?
- For how long can you commit?
- Do you have any questions or concerns regarding this opportunity?
- What do you hope to gain from this opportunity?

We are working closely with refine+focus, a strategic consulting and social media firm. A member of the UN-Habitat or refine+focus team will notify you about the status of your application.

To read more about the Urban Youth Fund, please visit www.unhabitat.org/youthfund.

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