

Alan Mwendwa - UN Urges Widespread Improvement Of World's Urban Slums



Source: human-wrongs-watch.net

urbangateway.org. October 2014. With a quarter of the world's population living in urban slums, a sustainable response to improving the living conditions of the urban poor is becoming increasingly necessary, the United Nations agency tasked with promoting environmentally and socially sustainable cities and towns said today.

In a press release made available ahead of World Habitat Day, UN Habitat warned that urban poverty was not just a present problem affecting today's metropolitan environments but "an ever-growing concern posing development and humanitarian threats to humankind."

The theme of this year's World Habitat Day, observed annually on the first Monday of October, is Voices from the Slums - an effort to highlight the hardships of slum living through the voices of the urban poor while also giving rise to their experiences and ideas about improving their living conditions.

The UN agency voiced hope that the upcoming observance would also contribute to a policy dialogue that focuses on the broad range of issues related to the integration of life in the slum into the city; identify policy formulation and capacity development issues in which the UN can offer significant contributions; and identify key stakeholders in slum upgrading and adequate housing and actively engaging them in further discussions.

Read more: <http://www.urbangateway.org/un-urges-widespread-improvement>