**Report of the UN Special Rapporteur on the right to adequate housing to the
52nd session of the Human Rights Council**

**The right to adequate housing and climate change**

**Questionnaire**

Name of submitting entity, organization or individual: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Contact e-mail: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ (contact e-mail will be deleted when published)

***Impact of climate change on the right to adequate housing***

*Territorial state of play*

1. In your territory, what have been the main effects of the climate crisis, on the enjoyment of the right to adequate housing? Please specify whether there have been any climate-induced impacts on the security of tenure, availability, affordability, accessibility, habitability, location and cultural adequacy of housing, including climate crisis related displacement.[[1]](#footnote-1)
2. Are there differences in how the climate crisis affects the right to adequate housing in different parts of your territory (from the most-urbanized to the most rural parts)?
3. Are specific groups distinctly affected in the enjoyment of their right to adequate housing as a result of the climate crisis? Please describe in what way.
4. How is the right to adequate housing ensured for persons that have been internally or internationally displaced by the climate crisis?
5. When housing has been damaged or lost due to climate-induced events, what has been the related impact on the lives, health and livelihoods of the affected populations? How did your local government measure it?
6. How have people been able to access redress and compensation for damages to or loss of their housing as a result of the climate crisis and extreme weather events? What are the main obstacles to accessing timely redress and compensation, and what could be effective solutions?

*Measures undertaken by local governments*

1. What are the policies, programmes or measures on climate action undertaken by your local government which ensure the right to adequate housing? How to guarantee that they do not have (unintended) discriminatory impact on particular population groups?
2. What are the main barriers to addressing and mitigating the adverse impacts of climate change on the realization of the right to adequate housing?
3. Please indicate existing mechanism protecting tenants and home owners from the impact of the climate crisis or on their right to adequate housing or related to climate induced displacement.

***Impact of housing on climate change***

1. How does the housing sector of your territory contribute to climate change? It may be helpful to think in terms of:
* energy consumption for heating, cooling, cooking, lighting of housing;
* urban sprawl and related climate impacts (soil sealing, commuter traffic etc.);
* increase of average per capita living space;
* water use;
* emission of pollutants;
* climate impact of construction and used construction materials;
* deforestation, desertification and loss of biodiversity caused by housing development projects.

Please provide as well any available statistical information on the climate impact of the housing sector compared to other sectors in your territory.

1. What are the measures undertaken by your local government to reduce and eliminate the adverse impacts of the housing sector on the climate? How successful have been these programmes?
2. What are the main barriers to reducing and eliminating the adverse impacts of the housing sector on the climate?

***Towards*** ***a just transition to a rights-compliant, climate-resilient and carbon-neutral housing***

1. What measures have been taken to ensure the green transition in the housing sector does not jeopardize housing affordability?
2. What adaptation strategies are needed to ensure the continued habitability of housing in the face of the climate crisis? (protection from e.g. heat, flooding, extreme weather, etc.)
3. How are different interest groups, including marginalized communities, homeowners and tenants, being consulted, and able to participate in the design, implementation, monitoring and evaluation of:
* legislation, policies, or programmes been adopted that provide for specific measures to ensure the realization of the right to adequate housing in the face of the climate crisis;
* natural disaster preparedness, response and reconstruction, as well as in mitigation and adaptation efforts;
* measures to reduce and eliminate the adverse impacts of the housing sector on climate.
1. What is the role of local and regional governments in ensuring a just transition in the housing sector?
2. What are the main barriers to achieving it? How to leverage international cooperation to overcome those barriers?

***Other issues***

1. Please use this space to indicate any issue that should be considered for this report.

**Submission instructions**

**Deadline:** **8 July 2022**

**Email:** Please return this questionnaire to: ohchr-srhousing@un.org; ohchr-registry@un.org

**Email subject line:** Input for SR housing - report on climate change

**Accepted File formats:** Word only (supporting documents may as well be submitted in PDF)

**Accepted languages:** English, French and Spanish

Please include references to reports, academic articles, policy documents, text of legislation and, judgements, statistical information with hyperlinks to their full text or source or attach them to your submission (please respect total file size limit of 20 MB to ensure that it can be received)

**Potential confidentiality:** Please indicate on top of this questionnaire and in your e-mail if you want to have this submission or any particular attachment not to be published on the website of the Special Rapporteur and treated as confidential.

**Expected presentation** of the report of the Special Rapporteur: February/March 2023

1. Under international law, the right to adequate housing is more than having four walls and a roof. It is essentially the right to live in a place in peace, security and dignity. Housing adequacy covers the following seven essential elements: legal security of tenure; availability of services, materials, facilities and infrastructure; affordability; habitability; accessibility; location; and cultural adequacy. For organizations and stakeholders that may not be as familiar with the right to adequate housing in international human rights law, please consult General Comment No. 4 of the UN Committee on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights, available here. [↑](#footnote-ref-1)