Inclusive Cities, Communities of Solidarity

Urban Inclusion Marker

For the formulation of evidence-based policies, plans, and programs for integration in cities
Urban Inclusion Marker

General framework

Building on the guidelines and monitoring frameworks of the New Urban Agenda (NUA) and the 17 Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), and considering the lessons learned from the City Prosperity Initiative (City Prosperity Initiative or CPI), the Urban Inclusion Marker is a georeferenced composite index that allows measuring the aggregate level of inclusion of a city and its potential contribution to the spatial, social, economic, and cultural integration of its inhabitants.

In this sense, the marker is designed to estimate the capacity of a city to offer its inhabitants universal access to the services and opportunities in an urban area, without any discrimination related to economic conditions, nationality, age, or gender, and in line with the notion of the “right to the city” of the NAU.

For the definition of this marker, the following 3 pillars of the right to the city are taken as a starting point: (i) fair spatial distribution of resources, (ii) diversity and social, economic, and cultural equity, and (iii) inclusive governance. Concerning these pillars, spatial and socioeconomic conditions that materialize their implementation are identified, including the respective city’s governance frameworks.

Inclusive governance frameworks are essential for the improvement of prosperity and inclusion in the city of all inhabitants, including its responsible and efficient management, continuous feeding in co-creation processes, and guarantee of sustainability.

Definition of the Urban Inclusion Marker

To generate a simplified representation that summarizes a multidimensional concept in a composite index, this metric developed by UN-Habitat in partnership with UNHCR and IOM, is made up of five key thematic areas that group the basic variables to achieve more inclusive and prosperous cities:

1. **Adequate and affordable housing with services**: an inclusive and prosperous city offers conditions that guarantee universal access to adequate housing, which implies affordability, security of tenure, as well as dwelling located outside risk areas, with sufficient living space, adequate structural quality, and access to basic services.

2. **Health and well-being**: an inclusive and prosperous city offers universal access to social support systems, including health as a basic condition for the comprehensive development of its inhabitants and health conditions as an indicator of the system’s capacity. Moreover, well-being is achieved by the mitigation of negative environmental conditions such as pollution.

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2 Available for consultation at: https://unhabitat.org/programme/city-prosperity-initiative
3. **Education, diversity, and culture**: an inclusive and prosperous city offers access to social support systems, including education and culture, considering gender gaps as well as socioeconomic and cultural diversity in terms of income, ethnic groups, and age ranges.

4. **Public space, security, and vitality of the urban environment**: an inclusive and prosperous city offers access to adequate habitat conditions, including access to quality public spaces, in diverse and dynamic environments that promote safer cities.

5. **Employment and economic opportunities**: an inclusive and prosperous city generates and offers opportunities for livelihoods and adequate employment, taking advantage of territorial and community assets and promoting innovation and entrepreneurship for its inhabitants.

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Urban Inclusion Marker in the Metropolitan Area of Lima, Peru

The marker shows a global score for Metropolitan Lima (Lima and El Callao) of 63/100 points, locating the city below the sufficient potential of inclusion. The main challenges are located in the dimensions of adequate and affordable housing and public space as well as security and recreation.

### Adequate and affordable housing 49/100
- **Affordability**
  - 69
- **Access to basic services**
  - 61
- **Housing quality**
  - 25

- **A deficit in the quality of housing and access to basic services, especially in the peripheral territories and districts of El Callao, North Lima, East Lima, and South Lima.**

### Health and well-being 78/100
- **Life expectancy (considering gender gap)**
  - 94
- **Negative environmental conditions exposure**
  - 54
- **Proximity to health centers**
  - 96

- **Poor access to health facilities in the outskirts of North, East, South Lima, and Callao.**
- **Exposure to negative environmental factors in El Callao and Lima Centro.**

### Education, diversity, and culture 74/100
- **Educational level (considering gender gap)**
  - 69
- **Socioeconomic diversity**
  - 68
- **Proximity to educational and cultural facilities**
  - 90

- **Poor coverage of cultural facilities in Metropolitan Lima and educational facilities in El Callao as well as the peripheries of North, East, and South Lima.**
- **Low socioeconomic diversity in the territory.**

### Public space, security, and recreation 52/100
- **Security and protection**
  - 70
- **Urban environment vitality**
  - 22
- **Proximity to public spaces**
  - 49

- **Low coverage of quality public spaces and green area per capita.**
- **Insecurity is concentrated in the districts of El Callao and Cercado Lima.**

### Employment and economic opportunities 75/100
- **Access to opportunities for well-being and development**
  - 70
- **Proximity to commerce and services**
  - 90

- **Peripheries without accessibility to economic agglomerations and sources of employment.**
- **Unemployment is concentrated in the districts of El Callao and Lima Norte.**
Urban Inclusion Marker in the Metropolitan District of Quito, Ecuador

In the Metropolitan District of Quito, the marker shows a global city score of 67/100, located at the threshold of sufficient inclusion potential. The main challenges in terms of inclusion are evident in the dimensions of public space, employment and economic opportunities, and adequate housing.

- **Adequate and affordable housing**: 67/100
  - **Affordability**: 66
  - **Access to basic services**: 94
  - **Housing quality**: 41
  - Deficit of adequate housing due to structural quality and overcrowding and affordable housing, due to the high segregation of the center from the periphery.

- **Health and well-being**: 84/100
  - **Life expectancy (considering gender gap)**: 82
  - **Negative environmental conditions exposure**: 82
  - **Proximity to health centers**: 89
  - Poor access to social security and coverage of health centers.
  - Poor air quality.

- **Education, diversity, and culture**: 73/100
  - **Educational level (considering gender gap)**: 87
  - **Socioeconomic diversity**: 49
  - **Proximity to educational and cultural facilities**: 86
  - Low accessibility to cultural and educational facilities.
  - Low cultural and socioeconomic diversity, especially in the southeast of the municipality.
  - Low levels of education in the south and southeast and gender gap.

- **Public space, security, and recreation**: 58/100
  - **Security and protection**: 73
  - **Urban environment vitality**: 42
  - **Proximity to public spaces**: 49
  - Low coverage of public spaces in the extreme north, south, and southeast, as well as inequitable distribution of green area per capita Low vitality of the urban environment, and poor security conditions in commercial areas.

- **Employment and economic opportunities**: 62/100
  - **Access to opportunities for well-being and development**: 82
  - **Proximity to commerce and services**: 41
  - Lack of accessibility to areas of economic interest.
  - Youth unemployment and adequate employment deficit.
Urban Inclusion Marker in Barranquilla, Colombia

In Barranquilla, the marker shows a global score for the city of **69/100**, located at the threshold of sufficient inclusion potential. The main challenges in terms of inclusion are presented in the dimensions of public space, employment and economic opportunities.

- **Affordable housing deficit that generates informal employment and slum housing, especially towards the conurbation with the municipality of Soledad and urban expansion towards Galapa.**

- **Poor access to health and welfare due to low levels of affiliation to social security.**

- **Low coverage of hospitals in the north and gender gaps in access to health.**

- **Exposure to negative environmental factors in peripheries.**

- **Low social and cultural diversity.**

- **Poor coverage of cultural facilities outside the downtown area.**

- **Low educational level of population in peripheries.**

- **Public spaces, security, and recreation**

- **Low coverage of quality public spaces and green area per capita.**

- **Low vitality of the urban environment due to levels of density and land use.**

- **Gaps in the access to opportunities due to economic conditions: informal employment, youth unemployment, and economic dependency.**
Urban Inclusion Marker in the Metropolitan Area of Bucaramanga, Colombia

In the Metropolitan Area of Bucaramanga, the marker shows an overall city score of 67/100, located at the threshold of sufficient inclusion potential. The main challenges in terms of inclusion are evident in the dimensions of public space, employment and economic opportunities.

- **Adequate and affordable housing** (67/100)
  - Affordability
  - Access to basic services
  - Housing quality
  - Deficit of affordable and adequate housing (especially structural quality of walls, floors, and ceilings), especially in communes 1 and 14 of Bucaramanga.

- **Health and well-being** (83/100)
  - Life expectancy (considering gender gap)
  - Negative environmental conditions exposure
  - Proximity to health centers
  - Exposure to negative environmental factors in peripheries due to poor access to sanitation and solid waste collection. Floridablanca with poor air quality.
  - Up to 5.8 years as a gender gap in life expectancy at birth

- **Education, diversity, and culture** (69/100)
  - Educational level (considering gender gap)
  - Socioeconomic diversity
  - Proximity to educational and cultural facilities
  - Low social and cultural diversity and poor coverage of cultural facilities outside the central areas of the municipalities of the metropolitan area.
  - Up to 4.5 years of the gender gap in years of education

- **Public space, security, and recreation** (51/100)
  - Security and protection
  - Urban environment vitality
  - Proximity to public spaces
  - Low coverage of public spaces per capita.
  - Urban diversity is concentrated in central areas of the municipalities of the metropolitan area.
  - Greater occurrence of homicides and thefts in Bucaramanga.

- **Employment and economic opportunities** (64/100)
  - Access to opportunities for well-being and development
  - Proximity to commerce and services
  - Low unemployment rates are disaggregated throughout the territory. There is evidence of a high centralization of productive activities, which compromises access to economic opportunities.
Urban Inclusion Marker in Cúcuta and Villa del Rosario, Colombia

In Cúcuta and Villa del Rosario, the marker shows an overall score for the city of 65/100, which is below the potential for sufficient urban inclusion. The main challenges in terms of inclusion are highlighted in the dimensions of public space, employment and economic opportunities.

### Adequate and affordable housing

**Score:** 66/100

- Low residential density and affordable housing deficit generate informal occupation and housing in precarious settlements towards the peripheries.

### Health and well-being

**Score:** 82/100

- Poor access to social security due to informal employment. Low coverage of health facilities concentrated in metropolitan centrality.
- Exposure to negative environmental factors in peripheries with housing deficit.

### Education, diversity, and culture

**Score:** 69/100

- Low coverage of education and cultural facilities concentrated in metropolitan centrality.
- Low levels of education in the population.

### Public space, security, and recreation

**Score:** 63/100

- Low coverage of quality public spaces and green area per capita.
- Spatial segregation concentrates higher homicide rates.

### Employment and economic opportunities

**Score:** 63/100

- Low urban diversity, low specialization, and economic agglomeration generate unemployment and informal employment.
- High rates of economic dependence with 1 working person per family.
Urban Inclusion Marker in Tapachula, Mexico

In Tapachula, the marker shows an overall city score of **69/100**, ranking below the sufficient inclusion potential. The main challenges in terms of inclusion are evidenced in the dimensions of employment and economic opportunities, as well as access to adequate and affordable housing.

### Adequate and affordable housing

- **69/100**
- **Affordability**: 70
- **Access to basic services**: 87
- **Housing quality**: 50

- Deficient affordability and structural quality of housing (wall, floor, and ceiling materials) in peripheries.
- High access to basic services except for the internet.

### Health and well-being

- **82/100**
- **Life expectancy (considering gender gap)**: 84
- **Negative environmental conditions exposure**: 78
- **Proximity to health centers**: 85

- Deficient accessibility to health centers to the west and north of the municipality.
- Exposure to environmental pollution in the south of the municipality.
- Low gender gap in life expectancy at birth.

### Education, diversity, and culture

- **71/100**
- **Educational level (considering gender gap)**: 81
- **Socioeconomic diversity**: 46
- **Proximity to educational and cultural facilities**: 85

- Low accessibility to educational centers in the west of the municipality.
- Low socioeconomic and ethnic diversity
- Up to 1.25 years less education in women vs. men.

### Public space, security, and recreation

- **74/100**
- **Security and protection**: 99
- **Urban environment vitality**: 52
- **Proximity to public spaces**: 46

- Low coverage of quality public spaces and green area per capita.
- Low population density and vitality of the urban environment related to land use and occupation.

### Employment and economic opportunities

- **68/100**
- **Access to opportunities for well-being and development**: 38
- **Proximity to commerce and services**: 75

- Deficient accessibility to economic agglomerations in peripheries.
- High gender gap in access to employment with twice as many men employed vs. women.