



# HIC Annual Report 2008

Global network for the right to habitat with social justice



## Act Together - Housing for All!

human dignity and housing rights

social production of habitat

gender equality

sustainable environment



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# foreword - message from the president

HIC is a global coalition of member organizations operating in the civil society arena around the world. It also includes individual members referred to as the Friends of HIC. The present form of HIC is the result of a transformation initiated in 1987, a decade after its establishment in 1976.

The Annual Report 2008 presents: the composition of HIC membership, the profile of the Board, narratives on the work of the Regional Focal Points, the Thematic Structures, the General Secretariat and the Financial Statement.

The report acknowledges the diverse partners, collaborators and others that HIC interact with to sustain its mission: to advance people-centered development of human settlements and social justice, and making the cities, towns and villages of the world, the places to live in peace dignity for all.

The governing body of HIC is the Board. It is accountable to the General Assembly, which convenes as required. The Board which is led by the President is composed of the Vice-President—always of the opposite gender, the members elected by the regions of HIC, members nominated by the Thematic Structures of HIC, members appointed from social movements associated with HIC and an associate member-- as a voice of a global interest relevant to HIC.

The hub of HIC is the General Secretariat headed by the General Secretary, which oversees the various organizational units of HIC.

The geographical regions of HIC have focal points, based at member organizations and include: Anglophone and Francophone Africa, Asia, Latin America and the Caribbean, Europe and North America. This arrangement is to make HIC spatially inclusive and to better link the local, regional and global levels.

The Thematic Structures of HIC have evolved over time. The first two structures to emerge were the Housing and Land Rights Network (HLRN) and the Women and Shelter Network (WAS)—now known as the Women and Habitat Network (WAHN), following the transformation of HIC in 1987, the International Year of the Homeless (IYSH). The third Thematic Structure to emerge was the Habitat Sustainable Environment Network (HSEN), to advance the integration of human settlements, environment and development agendas, on the occasion of UNCED—the 1992 Rio Earth Summit.

The three thematic structures—networks, and a working group on the Social Production of Habitat, are the indicators of the evolving and maturing strategic direction of HIC. The networks are established by a decision of the General Assembly, and members can form working groups to explore relevant issue areas.

I convey my appreciation to all the organizational units of HIC-- including the General Secretariat, and the partners, collaborators and others who contributed and supported the achievements narrated in the report, amidst the severe hardships imposed on people everywhere, by the global financial crisis, driven by the unfettered neo-liberal ideology of global capitalism that HIC resists at all times.

In Solidarity  
Davinder Lamba, HIC President



# the coalition

Habitat International Coalition (HIC) is an independent, nonprofit alliance of organizations and individuals working in housing and human settlements for more than 30 years.

The Coalition is comprised of social movements, community-based organizations, support groups, activists and academics. The strength of the Coalition is based on its worldwide membership and on the fact that it brings together a range of civil society groups. Dedicated to advocacy, support for the poor, solidarity networking, popular mobilization, debate and analysis, HIC works to unite civil society in a shared commitment to ensure sustainable habitat and a livable planet for all. Its work focuses on defending and implementing the human rights linked to housing and habitat; i.e., land, housing, clean water, sanitation, a healthy environment, access to public goods and services; e.g., health, education, transport and recreation; access to livelihood and social protection, pluralism and the preservation of social, natural, historic and cultural patrimony.

HIC work on social production of habitat seeks to derive practical lessons from the compilation, exchange and analysis of “people’s processes” in initiating, designing, building and maintaining local environments. These experiences, which build upon local social resources and demonstrate local social reliance and ingenuity, generate and promote methods and strategies that then can be shared and replicated across regions. Each region has given rise to diverse and specific examples of struggles and efforts that emphasize distinct circumstances and priorities to construct livelihoods people-centered development.

In order to strengthen people’s process for access and provision of land and shelter, lessons learned to date show a need to understand what sustains people’s processes on land, housing and habitat/settlements development in urban and rural areas; to understand also what the forces are, both external and internal, that strengthen or weaken people’s

processes, including political and economic forces that have a bearing on people’s processes.

HIC seeks to envision alternative ways to develop cities and other human settlements, evolving a bottom-up perspective on human settlement development without destroying livelihoods, assets and material achievements of the poor, while, quite to the contrary, supporting and nurturing livelihoods, assets and settlements of the poor, and their integration into the city.

The Coalition articulates and supports the people’s processes through specific instruments and actions for both government and civil society organizations; it proposes more flexible design-based, knowledge-based and service-based housing policies and outputs with the objective of realizing the human right to adequate housing and equitable land use.





Since 2002 and annually reconfirmed by the General Assembly, HIC works along the following three strategic focus:

- Developing relationships inside and outside HIC, through advocacy, promotion, facilitative, supportive and direct action; and strengthening civil society's role in improving housing and settlement development.
- Strengthening people's processes by supporting community based efforts to improve housing and settlements and alleviate poverty by assisting a broad range of people's actions, addressing a set of core issues: housing, governance and poverty.
- Advocacy for recognition, defense and full implementation of housing rights, to improve the quality of life of the poor through improvement of housing conditions, in addition to income enhancement and social empowerment; and to move toward sustainable development.

## HIC in the World

Throughout 2008, the Coalition counted 302 members, from which 57 with right to vote; it had 58 friends. 1.091 organizations and individuals were part of HIC social base.

The geographic distribution of HIC members, friends and social base is the following:

| Región                      | Members | Members with right to vote | Friends | Social Base |
|-----------------------------|---------|----------------------------|---------|-------------|
| Africa Anglophone           | 30      | 8                          | 5       | 105         |
| Africa Francophone          | 25      | 9                          | 3       | 74          |
| Asia                        | 33      | 4                          | 11      | 181         |
| Latin America and Caribbean | 111     | 22                         | 11      | 335         |
| Middle East / North Africa  | 26      | 2                          | 2       | 142         |
| North America               | 25      | 5                          | 12      | 64          |
| Europe                      | 52      | 7                          | 14      | 190         |



**the coalition's faces** HIC General Assembly is composed of all members of the Coalition eligible to attend General Assembly meetings and participate in elections. The activity of the General Assembly during 2008 was its annual meeting in Barcelona.



**Davinder Lamba**  
President



**Anelise Melendez**  
Vice President

### HIC Board Members, Regional Representatives



**Rabial Mallick**  
Asia



**Katharine Coit**  
Europe



**Korotimy Théra**  
Francophone Africa



**Anelise Melendez**  
Latin America



**Félix Yanez**  
Latin America



**Issa Samander**  
Middle East/North  
Africa



**Nick Volk**  
North America

### HIC Board Members, Thematic Representatives and others



**Joseph Schechla**  
HIC Housing and  
Land Rights Network



**Khady Diagne**  
HIC Housing and  
Sustainable Environ-  
ment Network



**Léon Guy Mfumou**  
HIC Women and  
Habitat Network



**Juliet Bannoura**  
HIC Women and  
Habitat Network



**Graça Xavier**  
HIC Women and  
Habitat Network



**Na Hyo Woo**  
Social Movements



**Michael Kane**  
Associated Member

### HIC Board Regional and Thematic Alternates



**Joseph Fumtim**  
Francophone Africa



**Carmen Gonzalez**  
Latin America



**Leonardo Pessina**  
Latin America



**Amal al-Basha**  
Middle East/North  
Africa



**Shivani Bhardwaj**  
HIC Housing and  
Land Rights Network



**Anita Beaty**  
North America



**Diana Miloslavich**  
HIC Women and  
Habitat Network



**Mobola Fajemirokun**  
HIC Women and  
Habitat Network

### HIC Regional and Thematic Staff



**Enrique Ortiz**  
HIC Latin America



**Lorena Zarate**  
Latin America



**Angie Balata**  
HIC-HLRN



**Miloon Kothari**  
HIC HLRN



**Shivani Chaudhry**  
HIC HLRN



**Rabie Wahba**  
Middle East/North Africa



**Malick Gaye**  
Francophone Africa



**Zarina Ishani**  
Anglophone Africa



**Yasser Abdel Qader**  
HIC HLRN

### HIC General Secretariat



**Ana Sugranyes**  
General Secretary



**Marie Bailloux**



**Pedro Lira**



**Juan Necochea**



**Charlotte Mathivet**



**Cristina Harris**  
Rooftops Canada  
Intern



**Shelley Buckingham**  
Rooftops Canada  
Intern

# reporting regional and thematic HIC structures

HIC is not only composed by a variety of organizations sharing a common mission, but it is also filled with a variety of rich realities, methods and cultures. The connectivity of such vast diversity poses a challenge when trying to establish coordinated activities within the Coalition, but this challenge is what strengthens our actions as a whole: it is in this diversity that our strength and complementarity lies.

## Regional Activities

### HIC in Africa – Anglophone and Francophone Africa

2008 introduced the first phase of the HIC Africa Project, a major focus of the work conducted by both the HIC Anglophone and Francophone Africa regions throughout the year. The project aims to strengthen and consolidate African habitat civil society networks in order to advance the implementation of the Habitat Agenda throughout the continent. The three thematic areas that form the basis of the project are: women and their access to housing and land; HIV/AIDS and housing; and social production experiences in the areas of water and sanitation. It is a partnership between HIC, the Agència Catalana de Cooperació al Desenvolupament (ACCD) and Rooftops Canada and the project coordinator is Mazingira Institute, HIC Anglophone Africa focal point.

In the first stage of the Africa project, three workshops were organized as a way to bring social organizations together for the exchange of experiences and the development of strategies. HIC held the first Strategic Planning for Housing Rights Defenders, in Bamako, Mali, from 8 to 10 April, 2008. It provided participants with tools and methodologies on how better to defend their rights to land and housing at the local level and trained them on the application of international human rights instruments. Particularly beneficial was the exchange of experiences on effective and participatory urban management that integrates different approaches

of many actors. The workshop was hosted by the Coopération Féminine pour la Protection de l'Environnement (COFEPE) and HIC Mali, the local HIC collective.

The second workshop held in Addis Ababa, Ethiopia 7 - 10 May, 2008 focused on: HIC engagement with civil society and governmental sectors; HIC membership development; HIC domestic and global activism; and communication and networking within HIC. It was hosted by the Integrated Holistic Approach Urban Development Project (IHA-UDP).

From 12 to 14 August, 2008 a third workshop took place in Ouagadougou, Burkina Faso, hosted by ENDA-RUP. This space enabled HIC members to exchange experiences on the main thematic areas of the Africa Project. Participants presented and shared twenty case studies on women's access to land and housing, HIV/AIDS and housing, and water and sanitation. One important outcome of the workshop was the formulation of a 2009-11 Action Plan for the francophone Africa region.

The Africa Project enabled the improvement of technical and communicational tools, including access to a broadband internet connection, for five HIC members: COFEPE (Mali), CONGEH (Cameroon), Mazingira Institute (Kenya), WAT (Tanzania) and IHA-UDP (Ethiopia).

HIC membership grew in both anglophone and francophone Africa. Due to the recruitment that took place during the three workshops, HIC received 27 new applications for membership.

At the end of 2008, ACCD granted another full year of funding the HIC Africa Project for 2009.

Throughout the year, two Settlements Information Network Africa (SINA) newsletters (Nos. 72 and 73) were published by Mazingira Institute. Both newsletters cover HIC Africa activities in 2008 and particularly focus on the activities and outcomes of HIC Africa Project workshops.



## HIC in Latin America and the Caribbean

Throughout 2008, HIC members and friends throughout Latin America worked on influencing housing and habitat public policies at local, national, and regional levels as well as on strengthening and supporting the work conducted by different social actors and organizations in Latin America.

A Seminar on the Right to the City in Latin America: Social Movements for Urban Reform was organized by HIC America Latina (HIC-AL) during the III Americas Social Forum (Guatemala; October 2008). There were approximately 70 participants present, including more than 25 HIC member organizations from 10 different countries, as well as representatives from allied networks. HIC-AL most recent publication, *El Derecho a la ciudad en el mundo*, was launched during the seminar. It is available for download, as well as its English version, on the HIC-AL website (<http://www.hic-al.org/>).

Prior to the XVII Assembly of Ministers of Housing and Urban Development of Latin America and the Caribbean (MINURVI) (El Salvador; September 2008) many social organizations and networks, amongst them HIC-AL, requested to participate in these meetings. MINURVI's refusal to allow a large civil society's participation resulted in the presentation of a declaration entitled *Proposals towards the Implementation of the Right to the City in Latin American Urban Policy*, which was collectively writ-

ten and signed by more than one hundred social organizations from fourteen countries. At the Latin American level, HIC-AL, with the support of HIC members and the Secretaria Latinoamericana de Vivienda Popular (SELVIP), has begun to systematize training and capacity building activities and materials. This information will be incorporated into the HICademy section of the HIC website.

As a participant in the Economic, Social, and Cultural Rights Space in Mexico, HIC-AL was involved in: (1) the analytical review of the new technical cooperation agreement between the Mexican government and the United Nations Office of the High Commissioner on Human Rights (OHCHR); (2) the creation of the Universal Periodic Review on Mexico's human rights records submitted to the UN Human Rights Council in July; and (3) the dissemination of information regarding the work it has conducted on the case of the La Parota hydroelectric project. The integration of a social communications specialist to the HIC-AL team has led to the improvement and development of several technical and communicational tools. HIC-AL has begun to disseminate a monthly electronic bulletin to members. A new section entitled *HabitArte* has also been launched on the network's website. It is a space where citizens, particularly youth, can share their thoughts, actions, and proposals on habitat themes in a creative manner through photos, drawings, movements, and sounds.



On World Habitat Day in October and as part of the HIC Act Together – Housing for All Campaign, HIC-AL provided a compilation of documentary films entitled A Latin American Sample of Film, City, and Social Movements (Muestra latinoamericana

de Cine, Ciudad y Movimientos Sociales). HIC-AL disseminated this compilation to HIC members in various Latin American cities to present publicly on World Habitat Day 2008.

## FOPEVI Formulating the Housing Politics in Bolivia

FOPEVI is a space for debate --analysis and proposals--, that aims to formulate a housing policy in a participatory process, to set guidelines and define actions towards realization of the right to adequate housing.

The formulation of the housing policy proposal was achieved through local and national events (workshops, seminars, forums and meetings) with the participation of social organizations, universities and research institutions, support groups, local governments, public agencies, media, and other independent participants.

This is a legitimated process according to the new Bolivian Constitution which stipulates that the development of politics requires the participation of civil society organizations.

The proposal stresses that housing policy is no mere conventional set of programs and projects. Rather, it requires linking local policies with all the different institutions established in the Constitution. Housing policies must be suited to the specific realities across the country and facilitate programs and projects that respond to the local and regional housing particularities, thus avoiding homogenized and overly ideologized solutions.

To counter the global commodification trend in housing, FOPEVI proposes a conceptual framework based on both economic, social and cultural rights (ESCR) and the social production of habitat (SPH); a framework that defines the obligations and limitations of the State's intervention at all the stages of housing provision and that ensures the effective participation of all affected civil society actors in the processes of planning, design, production, distribution, management, and maintenance. This policy proposal calls for interaction among all the institutions dealing with housing and population.

From May to July 2008, a national consultation

took place through workshops in all the provincial capitals of Bolivia, including El Alto, the largest and poorest town perched above La Paz. This was the final participatory process, to validate the diagnostic and remedial proposals.

The document is structured on five main components:

- 1. Management and Participation:** emphasizing the role of institutions and organizations involved in housing matters in a framework of shared responsibility;
- 2. Access to Urban and Rural Land for Housing:** emphasizing that land is a natural resource with a social function such that ensures the democratic and equitable access to land as one of the key components for the realization of the right to adequate housing;
- 3. Financing for Housing and Basic Services:** referring to the needs of creating a system of access to resources, both through the market and through mechanisms for financing supportive housing in areas of greater vulnerability and poverty;
- 4. Technical Support for the Social Production of Housing:** stressing the need to recover participatory planning and design as fundamental factors of the production of housing and habitat;
- 5. Technology and Research:** proposing guidelines for promoting and institutionalizing the promotion of applied research and apply appropriate technologies with the use of low-cost local materials in combination with the innovative techniques.

With the submission of this document, it is hoped that authorities and the population as a whole will be empowered and will have a tool in their hands to strengthen the management of the housing sector through guidelines and integral actions that ensure the realization of the right to adequate housing.

## HIC in Asia

HIC members throughout Asia were active in organizing campaigns and activities on housing and land rights issues in 2008. They especially celebrated the HIC campaign Act Together - Housing for All across the continent. On World Habitat Day, HIC member Shelter for the Poor (Bangladesh), organized meetings with slum dwellers and community leaders, and professional support groups working on the rights of urban poor communities in Dhaka, Bangladesh. It also organized and coordinated a Community Organization training session for the Bangladesh section of other HIC members forming part of, Leaders and Organizers of Community Organization in Asia (LOCOA).

In the Philippines, Urban Poor Associates (UPA) sponsored a weekly radio program over a national network. Each week the show covered housing and land rights issues and was in fact the highest rated program in its time slot. In India, HIC members organized campaigns and meetings on housing rights, land tenure, and eviction in various cities including Kolkata, Mumbai, Delhi, Chennai and Bangalore.

Throughout the region, many acts of resistance against evictions and displacement involved HIC members and supporters. A real estate development project planned for the Boeng Kak lakeside community in Phnom Penh, Cambodia, threatened 4,500 families with eviction. The community, with the support of newly joined HIC member, the Cambodian Housing Rights Task Force (HRTF), started a people's advocacy campaign to stop harassment, undertake consultations and information dissemination, and to develop resettlement and compensation options. In North Jakarta, Indonesia the planned construction of a sports stadium led to the forced eviction of approximately 6,000 families from their homes. The Urban Poor Linkage (Uplink) and neighbouring communities affected by the eviction launched a campaign to press for appropriate compensation and resettlement terms. More than 300 families remained on site to put pressure on these negotiations.

## HIC in the Middle East and North Africa

2008 was a year of growth for the HIC Middle East and North Africa (HIC-MENA) program both in member recruitment and in alliance formation with other networks and organizations in the region.

As part of its capacity building goal, HIC-MENA conducted a series of skill-building activities in the region for members and their communities. This included training in preparation for self-representation and parallel reporting before the UN treaty bodies, refugee rights and strategic planning.

In Egypt, HIC-MENA organized and sponsored a multimedia event with the local community in Cairo to commemorate the 60 years of al-Nakba (Palestinian catastrophe). The event, entitled "Between the Walls," consisted of a Townhouse Gallery exhibit of photos by two local artists/photographers, with cultural events taking place at the opening and closing ceremonies.

The HLRN Urgent Action system contained 78 unresolved cases in 2008. Of those, 19 were in MENA: 4 in Egypt and 15 in Israel/Palestine. The HLRN Violation Database recorded cases of eviction, dispossession, demolition, and violations arising from privatization in the MENA region that affected over 4,000,000 people in 2000-08. Arising from the number of violations in the region, HIC-MENA began to compile guidelines to enable members to raise cases before the compliance mechanisms of the regional development banks. This effort began through a consultation with the African Development Bank in June 2008.

At the international level, HIC-MENA put forward a joint submission, focusing on discrimination affecting housing and land rights, for the review of Israel to the Universal Periodic Review mechanism of the UNHCHR. Major publications by HIC-MENA in 2008 included a country assessment of priorities for legal defense and advocacy of housing rights in both urban and rural Egypt, the Reclaiming Public Water book (in cooperation with the Transnational Institute and the Arab Forum on the Right to Water), containing cases of struggles against privatization, with a new chapter on the MENA region and the human right to water, and the Arabic-language version

of a methodological guide for monitoring the Millennium Development Goal No. 7 within the human rights framework.

## HIC in Europe

One of the main achievements of HIC Europe in 2008 was the creation of working alliances with some of the principle actors in the housing and urban sectors, particularly with No-Vox, Droit au Logement (DAL), International Alliance of Inhabitants (IAI), and with local groups such as the Sulukule Platform in Turkey, the Soviet Regional Coordination of Russia, and individuals in Greece and Switzerland.

In France, HIC members and allies, as well as the homeless and poorly housed hoped that an judicable right to housing would become operable throughout the country. Under recent legislation, a legal right to housing, would give the homeless and poorly housed an opportunity sue in court to demand that authorities ensure their access to adequate accommodation. After almost three months of demonstrations and campouts on the streets of Paris, the government agreed to provide housing to the homeless and inadequately housed. Later in 2008 many became disillusioned when the government passed the Boutin Law which takes most of the meaning out of the previous law for a judicable right to housing and disengages the state from financial obligations linked to the provision of social housing.

On 24 November 2008, prior to the meeting of the European Ministers of Housing in Marseilles, No-Vox and other local groups organized a demonstration as a reaction to these meetings. HIC representatives, international organizations, and local activists were present. During the Ministers' meeting, a delegation of representatives from the organizations in charge of the demonstration, including HIC, spoke with representatives from the French Ministry of Housing. They demanded that urgent actions be taken on housing, including the provision of 1000 units in Marseilles.

Also in November 2008, several HIC members from Europe participated in a conference in Berlin that focused on the meaning of the Right to the City in the context of neo-liberal urban restructuring.

## HIC in North America

At the Barcelona HIC Meetings in February 2008, HIC representatives discussed the importance of advancing the global housing rights agenda and strengthening the UN rights framework in the United States. The National Association of HUD Tenants (NAHT), the only national tenant union in the United States and a HIC member, laid the groundwork for an International Covenant on Economic, Social, and Cultural Rights (ICESCR) treaty ratification campaign within the United States to be carried out over two years. Following NAHT's annual Strategic Planning meetings, participants proposed a 2008 Save our Homes Platform (See Save Our Homes Platform Bubble), that included ratification of the Right to Adequate Housing as an explicit plank. Also resulting from the meeting were plans for the campaign to raise the platform of housing rights during the Presidential and Congressional elections in that context.

Associate HIC Board member, Michael Kane, represented HIC in the Truth Commission convened by the Poor People's Economic Human Rights Campaign (PPEHRC) during the Republican National Convention in September 2008 in Minneapolis.

In Canada, Miloon Kothari's reports on his mission to Canada as UN Special Rapporteur on Adequate Housing (UN-SRAH) were used by HIC members for advocacy purposes and to pose alternative housing solutions in their dealings with provincial and municipal governments.

A large number of information on HIC was distributed at the Canadian Housing and Renewal Association's (CHRA) board meeting (Vancouver; April 2008), at the Tri-Country Housing Best Practices meeting of the United States, United Kingdom, and Canadian social housing practitioners, and at the National Association of Housing and Redevelopment Officials (NAHRO) national conference (San Antonio, October 2008).

# The National Alliance of HUD Tenants’ Save our Homes Platform 2008

Since 1996, approximately 400,000 units of affordable housing in the United States have been lost and in 2008 as many as 300,000 families were at risk of displacement due to the threat of a \$2.4 billion shortfall in the provision of rental subsidies under the project-based Section 8 rental assistance program of the US Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD). The Presidential elections of 2008 provided tenant movements a chance to raise these issues during the presidential campaigns and demand for change.

The National Alliance of HUD Tenants (NAHT), the only national tenant union in the United States and a HIC member, took this opportunity to outline a Save Our Homes Platform that sought commitments from Presidential and Congressional candidates to ensure that tenant homes would be kept as affordable housing. The Platform includes the ratification of the Right to Adequate Housing as an explicit plank and also makes several other demands such as the improvement of HUD substandard housing and an end to gentrification and speculation in affordable housing.

Soon after presidential candidates were announced, NAHT delivered the Platform to the major parties and invited them to send representatives to the annual NAHT conference in June in Washington, D.C. The Obama team sent one of its top legislative aides, Ian Solomon, to discuss the Platform. The McCain campaign however, failed to respond, which led to 150 conference participants directly delivering the Platform to the offices of the Republican National Committee and staging a protest when the

Republicans locked their doors and called the police.

Ian Solomon’s response to the Platform was positive and ensured that changes would take place at HUD such as increases in subsidy funding, respect for the right to organize, more involvement of tenants in decision making and an increase in overall HUD transparency. The proposal for ratification of the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights (ICESCR) guaranteeing an enforceable right to adequate housing, also was well received and referred directly to Obama.

Across the United States NAHT allies carried out activities to educate the public about the election platform and to highlight threats being faced by HUD tenants such as rent increases and the loss of housing due to HUD-proposed funding cuts. In Chicago, New York and Dallas, NAHT groups held press conferences and met with elected local officials to advocate the Platform. These events were organized as part of HIC’s Act Together – Housing for All campaign on World Habitat Day.

As a result of NAHT’s steady lobbying before Obama’s presidential campaign in 2008 and successful dissemination of the Save Our Homes Platform throughout the United States, \$2.8 billion to fund project-based section 8 was allotted to HUD’s 2009 budget with President Obama’s signature in March 2009. NAHT’s achievements in 2008 proved that determination and dedicated efforts can make meaningful change and improve housing rights conditions.



# HIC thematic structures

## HIC Housing and Land Rights Network (HLRN)

As a participant in the Durban Review Preparatory Committee meetings in 2008, HIC-HLRN focused its efforts on the dominant forms of discrimination affecting housing and land rights globally (See Article HLRN Advocacy). HLRN, HIC's specialized human rights member group also was involved in networking and lobbying on the range of affected communities whose housing and land rights are violated though institutional and patterned discrimination. HLRN also contributed to the Palestinian civil society submission to the Durban Review Process.

HLRN, alongside HIC member, the Regional Council of Unrecognized Villages (RCUV), worked on cases of demolitions and evictions of the Palestinian "unrecognized villages" in al-Naqab, in Israel. As a result of its work, in 2008 HLRN produced a formal submission on house demolitions and evictions there to the Goldberg Commission on "Regulation" of the Bedouin Communities in the Naqab/Negev. Throughout 2008, HLRN's "Loss Matrix", which method quantifies housing and land rights violations over time within a reparations framework, was an essential reference in proffering recommendations to the UN Register of Damage from the Wall in the West Bank (UNRoD). The use of this tool enabled HLRN to provide technical advice to the UNRoD and the Palestinian National Committee on the Register of Damage (PNCRoD). HLRN continues to follow progress of UNRoD.

With the help of legal researchers in 2008, HLRN and MENA began to develop methods on how gross housing and land rights violations could be classified as war crimes and crimes against humanity. Specifically, a guide is being produced based on the jurisprudence that arose from the Nuremberg Tribunals and how to apply the International Criminal Court's procedures and standards of evidence.

The World Social Forum's 2008 Global Day of Mobilization and Action enabled HLRN to enlist HIC members in the Human Dignity and Human Rights

Caucus (HDHRC) competition for small grants. The competition winner had the opportunity to participate in the HDHRC's parallel event at the World Economic Forum (Davos, Switzerland; January 2008). On World Habitat Day 2008 and in celebration of HIC's Act Together – Housing for All campaign, HLRN issued a report on the findings and trends arising from cases found in the Violations Database. This report was used by HIC members during their Housing and Land Rights Day activities. Based on the case data gathered in HLRN's Violation Database, the Network's Cairo coordination office and HIC-GS jointly produced the annual HIC mapping of housing and land rights violations, 2006-08.

HLRN's South Asia Regional Programme (HLRN-SARP) based in New Delhi, India played a central role in the Indian National Campaign to promote and further develop the UN Basic Principles and Guidelines on Development based Evictions and Displacement. In collaboration with Amnesty International/India and HIC member, Youth for Unity and Voluntary Action (YUVA), HLRN-SARP published a handbook on these guidelines (Handbook on the UN Guidelines on Development-based Evictions and Displacement) and distributed it widely in printed and electronic forms.

HLRN-SARP organized a meeting on homelessness that brought together a range of actors including homeless groups and led to the creation of a forum on homelessness in Delhi (Shahri Adhikar Manch: Begharon Ke Liye – Urban Rights Forum for the Homeless). Continued lobbying and interaction with local government officials to address the causes of homelessness and the improvement of services for Delhi's homeless has led to the creation of more night shelters and shelters for homeless women.

HLRN-SARP continued its long-standing work on behalf of communities affected by disasters. It organized a National Peoples' Tribunal on Post-tsunami Rehabilitation in Chennai, India in December 2008 to mark the fourth anniversary of the Asian tsunami. Human rights training to local partners after the Tribunal resulted in a survey of the state of housing

and land rights conditions in the tsunami affected areas.

The preparation of a parallel report on housing and land rights in India entitled, Acts of Commission, Acts of Omission – Housing and Land Rights and the Indian State: Update, submitted to the Committee on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights (CESCR) in May 2008 was coordinated by HLRN-SARP. It also played an active role at the Committee session and contributed to the content of the concluding observations, which have strong provisions on housing and land rights, forced evictions, livelihood and the effects of the tsunami.

## HIC Women and Habitat Network

In mid-2009 the HIC Board approved the change of the network's name from the "Women and Shelter Network, HIC-WAS" to the current name, "Women and Habitat Network, HIC-WAH".

In February 2008, HIC and the Observatori DESC held an international seminar entitled Women and Housing Rights: Building Habitat for Human Dignity in Barcelona, Spain (See Bubble on seminar summary).

In the fall of 2008, several HIC-WAS representatives participated in UN-Habitat's Global Land Tool Network online discussion on Gender Criteria for Large Scale Land Tools.

In Latin America, HIC-WAS participated in the pro-

gram entitled Equality between Women and Men in the Workplace (by its Spanish acronym, PARES, Equidad entre mujeres y varones en el empleo). This project was coordinated by organizations in Argentina, Paraguay, Peru, and Colombia. Alongside the United Nations Development Fund for Women (UNIFEM) and other women's networks, HIC-WAS coordinated an international seminar on Cities without Violence against Women: Safe Cities for All which took place in Buenos Aires, Argentina in July 2008. Throughout 2008, HIC-WAS Africa focused on strengthening the Land Consultation Clinics program (CCF, French acronym of Cliniques de Consultation Foncière) and aimed to gather the experiences of HIC members participating in this program. The objective of the clinics is to raise awareness and educate women on their housing and land rights.

In Asia, HIC-WAS member, Sathi All for Partnerships (SAFP), was active throughout India in advocating women's resource rights fulfillments strategies. In April 2008, SAFP met with UNIFEM representatives to share its knowledge on women affected by HIV/AIDS and their access to property rights. SAFP also contributed to the Indian civil society reporting to CESCR on women's livelihood resources. The report was submitted in May 2008 to the United Nations Committee on Economic Social and Cultural Rights (UNCESCR) in response to the Indian government's official submission.



# Women and Housing Rights International Seminar Strategies

The International Seminar, Women and Housing Rights: Building Habitat for Human Dignity, was held in Barcelona from 12 to 14 February 2008. Organized by HIC and Observatori DESC, the seminar aimed at formulating strategies for the fulfillment of women's rights to housing and land through the participation of representatives from various human rights organizations from around the world. The thematic background for the seminar was derived from eight regional consultations conducted on women and adequate housing, carried out between 2002 and 2006 by the United Nations Special Rapporteur on Ad-

equated Housing, Miloon Kothari.

Debates centered on three thematic areas concerning women's housing rights; (1) a broad interpretation of the right to adequate housing; (2) multiple discrimination that women face which affect the enjoyment of their housing rights and; (3) increasing violations of housing rights at local levels as the result of global forces.

From these debates, participants identified numerous current and needed strategies in four areas of action: alliances and networking, research, Policy Development, and Advocacy.

## Alliances and Networking

- Develop networks at all levels to influence the adoption and implementation of housing and land access laws, policies and programs that take the gender perspective into account.
- Increase information sharing and training between urban and rural women's groups on women's participation in housing and land issues through workshops and classrooms.
- Ensure that housing services coordinate with those of supportive groups for women subjected to violence.

## Research

- Conduct surveys among different groups of women to determine their ideal conditions for habitability of housing
- Gather information on potentially dangerous neighbourhoods and disaggregated data on urban and rural women's housing conditions to be forwarded to their respective administrations to influence urban and rural housing, land and planning policies.

## Policy Development

- All levels of governments must develop housing and land policies that take into account the housing and land needs of different groups of women, in both urban and rural contexts, ensuring women's access to housing and land credit, financing and subsidies, and enhanced legal forms of tenure security
- Women's unpaid reproductive labour must be visible, valued and reflected in urban development design plans and agrarian reform and ensuring their habitat facilitates their productive and reproductive labour including the cultivation of land.

## Advocacy

- Promote the eradication of cultural and social practices that result in the degradation and/or invisibility of women and, their work providing for the home, and that restrict of their right to access land and housing
- Mobilize against women facing evictions – especially those instigated by the privatization of land, housing, and basic resources and services – and ensure their access to legal services.
- Advocate for female victims of violence to, assure their permanence in their home and the expulsion of the aggressor, or provide them with access to safe and adequate alternative housing.

\*The full summary of the seminar may be found at [www.hic-net.org](http://www.hic-net.org)

## HIC Habitat and Sustainable Environment Network

As part of the HIC Africa Project, HIC Habitat and Sustainable Environment Network (HIC-HSEN) coordinated both workshops held in West Africa in 2008. At the Burkina Faso workshop (August 2008), HIC-HSEN Coordinator, Khady Diagne, addressed the need to focus on issues of water and sanitation, while the workshop's timing coincided with the International Year of Sanitation as declared by the UN General Assembly.

In accordance with the International Year of Sanitation, HIC-HSEN participated in the conference, Reaching the MDGs for Sanitation: Options to Expand and Accelerate Coverage, organized by the Coalition of Non-Governmental Organizations in Water and Sanitation (CONIWAS) in Koforidua, Ghana (in July 2008). This was a space for organizations working in water and sanitation to deliberate on issues of concern, share knowledge, and consider forward strategies. HIC-HSEN also celebrated World Toilet Day, 19 November 2008, with the theme of We Deserve Better.

HIC-HSEN participated in the African Civil Society Network on Water and Sanitation (ANEW). The western African regional coordinator of, ENDA-RUP, held the 2008 meeting in which western African focal points were chosen: in Burkina Faso, Nigeria, Ghana, Mali, and Senegal, and national meetings in these focal point countries were planned.

Through the African Urban Risk Analysis Network (AURAN), HIC-HSEN Coordinator, Khady Diagne, contributed to the publication entitled Disaster Risk Reduction: Cases from Urban Africa published in 2008. Through ENDA-RUP, HIC-HSEN also contributed to the publication entitled Disaster Risk Reduction in West and Central Africa: Local Perspectives.

HIC-HSEN is working to strengthen the network in all HIC regions. HIC-HSEN hopes to launch a blog to enable HIC members across all regions to exchange their knowledge, experiences, and expertise on habitat and sustainable environment issues.





# HIC-HLRN and the durban review

It is no mere coincidence that the question of Palestine and Israel's Zionist institutions and policies formed a subject of great contention at the World Conference against Racism, Racial Discrimination, Xenophobia and Related Intolerance (WCaR), at Durban, South Africa (2001). Institutionalized discrimination, especially in housing and land, is central to the issue. That was no less the case throughout the 2008 preparations for the Durban Review Conference scheduled for 2009. However the Palestinian situation is one of many international cases in which housing and land rights have been violated on the basis of racism, racial discrimination, xenophobia and related intolerance. Through its Violation Database, fact finding missions, and reports submitted by HIC members, HLRN has monitored a large number of these cases.

- In Africa, the eviction of forest dwellers is common practice. In 2004, the Kenyan government evicted and left homeless approximately 100,000 indigenous Chepkitales in order to turn their ancestral homeland into a national game reserve that would serve as a source of money.
- In Asia, the caste system as well as descent and work based discrimination are part of the systems of social stratification in the region. In 2003, with the pretext of park beautification, India evicted 7,000 Dalits from a park where they had been forced to live after being denied settlement in upper-caste areas.
- In Latin America indigenous people are main principal targets of violations. In the region of El Estor, Izabal, Guatemala, private police and armed forces forcefully evicted about 2,415 Q'eqchi Maya from their homes in 2007 to provide increased land access to the Canadian mining company, Skye Resources.
- Across Europe, the Roma/Sinti populations continuously have faced forced evictions and in some cases, expulsions from countries. Urban beautification, gentrification, and privatized development in Europe and North America disproportionately affect the poor and ethnic minorities. In the context of the

2010 Vancouver Olympic Games, gentrification of that city's downtown area has led to the evictions of 1,050 low-income residents.

Due to HLRN's involvement in monitoring cases such as these and as part of its advocacy work, it has been able to contribute to the Durban Review Process (DRP) which aimed to evaluate the progress by States in implementing the 2001 Durban Declaration and Plan of Action (DDPA). The DDPA, an outcome of the 2001 (WCaR) embodies the commitment of most states in the United Nations to take measures to combat racism in all its manifestations through the use of tougher anti-discrimination legislation and administrative means. It also provides guidelines to address past wrongful acts of racial and other forms of discrimination.

After participating in the 2008 Durban Review PrepComs and in preparation for the 2009 UN Durban Review conference, HIC-HLRN submitted a response to the UN Durban Review Process Questionnaire with the aim of better informing and guiding the DRP, including deliberations toward the final Draft Outcome Document (DOD). The questionnaire consists of six core questions to States and civil society organizations (CSOs) about the impacts and implementation of the DDPA in their country, the level and scope of racism, racial discrimination, xenophobia and related intolerances in that country, and what governments are doing about to combat the phenomenon and its destructive consequences.

HLRN's response to the DRP questionnaire analyzed international housing and land rights violations, the network's area of research and specialization, through the lens of racism, racial discrimination, xenophobia, and related intolerance. HLRN emphasizes that acts of racism and xenophobia appear to be rising globally rather than declining and that it is necessary to make more specific mention of housing and land rights violations in this context as this is a constant field and subject of discrimination. Furthermore, the findings show that, if states,

institutions, and political representatives do not put into practice the measures set out by the DDPA, local populations will find it unnecessary to alter their own xenophobic views, attitudes and behaviour toward others.

HLRN concludes its response by stating that states and the international community hold the greatest potential for solving problems related to racism, racial discrimination, xenophobia, and related intolerance because they have the ability to mobilize superior resources and expertise. However, this does not imply that civil society does not also play a pivotal role in creating change. Through a human rights methodology that applies principles of non-discrimination, civil society organizations can contribute preventive and remedial solutions consistent with state actions.



## Good practices implemented by states and civil society

HLRN has observed good practices that have been employed by several countries and professional development groups towards the remedy and eventual elimination of racial discrimination, xenophobia, and related intolerance. Some examples are:

- The California Housing Element Law, which requires cities and counties to plan affordable housing for all income levels of society. It includes the provision of at least one zoning jurisdiction where homeless shelters can be located by right to prevent the “not in my backyard” attitude.
- In Ecuador, guarantees of non-discrimination in the rights to adequate housing, equitable land, water and democratic management of the city have been enshrined in the new constitution.
- In Botswana, the High Court recognized the government’s attempt to evict Bushmen from their lands in 2006 as unconstitutional which interrupted a pattern of dispossession and displacement of indigenous groups. The independence of the judiciary is one criterion for remedial action to address discrimination against vulnerable groups.
- The World Social Forum has been an important meeting point for various social movements, including HIC, to exchange and develop human rights and antidiscrimination strategies toward overcoming obstacles and posing alternative solutions.
- HIC member, Youth for Unity and Voluntary Action (YUVA) based in India, provides political and legal training to pavement dwellers and organizes workshops to ensure that those marginalized under discriminatory economic policies and processes are empowered through the establishment of their legal identities and rights within the state.
- FEDEVIVIENDA in Colombia (also a HIC member) has developed expertise and methods to address gender discrimination and threats to indigenous and peasant land rights, as well as ways to create more inclusive cities through innovative legislation and the application of law.

## 2008 campaign “Act Together – Housing for All!”

For five years, the traditional global Housing and Land Rights Days (HLRD) Campaign, has been held during the first week of October, on a simultaneous expression of the official UN Habitat Day Action Day, as a going on alternative built since 2006 at the WSF spheres.

This year, UN Habitat’s slogan of World Habitat Day was “Harmonious Cities”, as part of the World Urban Forum (WUF) which took place in Nanjing, China. Through WUF and other channels, HIC voiced its concern about a global meeting called to discuss themes of “harmonious cities” in a country where human rights—in particularly, housing rights—are flagrantly violated, and where cities multiply with a perspective of short-term, unsustainable development. A “harmonious city”, rather, means harmonizing human rights obligations of the state in legislation and policies of both central and local authorities. However, this dimension was subordi-

nated in the biennial forum, which underscores the need for HIC’s continued housing and land rights advocacy and substantive input in the global habitat debate.

The substantive basis for HIC’s contribution to that discourse is its monitoring of wide-ranging cases and the information that its Members provide. Thus, for the third consecutive year, the Coalition has published a global map of violations. These violations of the human rights to habitat (access to land, housing, water, and services) continue to afflict the most-vulnerable groups, through all types of eviction and dispossession such as those generated by the privatization of habitat, by real estate interests, in resettlement processes following natural disaster, and by armed conflicts, wars and occupation. The “Housing and Land Rights Violations Map” was made possible with information compiled by HLRN through its Violation Database (VDB).

### HIC and Allies Call on G-20 to Make Change

In response to the global financial and housing crisis, HIC, along with other international housing rights alliances, organizations and individuals, used the 2008 G-20 Summit on Financial Markets and the World Economy as an occasion to publicise the platform, G-20: Build a Global Social Pact for Equitable and Sustainable Habitat Now!. This far-reaching statement of shared principles and demands calls for fundamental change in global financial architecture and habitat financing.

Demands on G-20 governments included: the immediate development of a coordinated emergency program in order to limit negative consequences of the crisis on housing conditions, environments, habitat and local economies; the creation of alternatives to private mortgage and ownership based housing systems; and the development of international bodies and instruments that promote impoverished people’s access to land, the social regulation of land markets that also respect indigenous people’s land rights. The platform further stated that the enactment of a global pact on financing housing and habitat would contribute to the solution of the global housing crisis, correct the misdirected paths taken in the world economy and global governance since the 1970s, and reduce financial speculations in housing and lands.

# HIC General Secretariat in 2008

## HIC General Secretariat in 2008

Throughout 2008 the HIC General Secretariat, based in Santiago, Chile, was committed to advancing the Coalition's functional and institutional dimensions and also conducted work at national and international levels.

The year started with the HIC Annual General Assembly and Board meetings in Barcelona, Spain 8-12 February 2008. These meetings were organized to coincide with the Women and Housing Rights: Building Habitat for Human Dignity International Seminar which took place from 12-14 February 2008 and was hosted by HIC and the Observatori DESC. The success of these events was largely due to the logistical and financial support received by HIC-GS from the Agència Catalana de Cooperació al Desenvolupament (ACCD), the Observatori DESC, the Ajuntament de Barcelona (City Hall) which provided funds for simultaneous translation, and the Universitat Oberta de Catalunya (UOC) which provided the facilities for the meetings.

One of the main projects undertaken by HIC-GS in 2008 was the transition of the HIC website from a Windows to a Linux platform. This was done with the goal of creating a more coherent and accessible website for users, as well as for those managing the HIC-net system. The new HIC website is designed to include the HICademy, an idea developed at the HIC Barcelona meetings in 2008 by HIC President,

Davinder Lamba. In the process of switching to a new platform, HIC-GS also developed several new membership tools.

At the international level, the General Secretary participated in the World Social Forum's (WSF) International Council (IC) meetings in Abuja, Nigeria (March-April 2008) and Copenhagen, Denmark (September 2008). At these meetings, the General Secretary became involved in preparations for WSF Expanded, as well as in weekly international chats held by the IC-WSF Communicational Commission in which the HIC-GS team participated. Implementing the HIC Board's standing resolution (2003) to focus efforts on building HIC in Africa, HIC-GS supported the HIC Africa Project throughout the year. It presented the first progress report for the project to ACCD in October 2008 and coordinated the content and submission of the second year funding application in December 2008.

In Latin America, the General Secretary participated in events in La Paz, Bolivia (August 2008) as part of the formulation of a national housing policy between HIC members and the government. In Chile, HIC-GS works with a variety of social movements and organizations to advance the right to housing throughout the country, support people's struggle to obtain adequate housing, and organize campaigns to raise awareness on housing and land rights in Chile and throughout the world.





# HIC Financial Statement 2008<sup>(1)</sup>

## Expressed in US Dollars

| Year 2008                                     | HIC-AA <sup>(2)</sup> | HIC-AL <sup>(3)</sup> | MENA           | SARP           | HLRN <sup>(4)</sup> | HIC-GS         | Total            | Balance expressed<br>in percentage |
|---|-----------------------|-----------------------|----------------|----------------|---------------------|----------------|------------------|------------------------------------|
| <b>Income</b>                                 | <b>144,000</b>        | <b>386,932</b>        | <b>182,111</b> | <b>137,200</b> | <b>186,165</b>      | <b>191,169</b> | <b>1,227,577</b> |                                    |
| Donor Agencies <sup>(4a, b, c, d, e, f)</sup> | 144,000               | 380,759               | 129,026        | 137,200        | 173,127             | 154,838        | 1,118,950        |                                    |
| HIC Membership fees                           | ---                   | ---                   | ---            | ---            | ---                 | 6,618          | 6,618            |                                    |
| Solidarity, special contributions             | ---                   | 6,173                 | 53,085         | ---            | 13,038              | 29,713         | 102,009          |                                    |
| <b>Expenditure</b>                            | <b>132,172</b>        | <b>365,840</b>        | <b>150,432</b> | <b>78,988</b>  | <b>141,964</b>      | <b>175,807</b> | <b>1,045,203</b> |                                    |
| Staff Costs <sup>(5)</sup>                    | 11,940                | 91,027                | 91,518         | 31,882         | 33,532              | 74,582         | 334,481          | 27%                                |
| Projects, activities <sup>(6)</sup>           | 107,279               | 245,708               | 44,253         | 29,203         | 81,784              | 88,709         | 596,936          | 49%                                |
| Administration Costs <sup>(7)</sup>           | 11,513                | 25,597                | 12,229         | 17,482         | 24,215              | 12,516         | 103,552          | 9%                                 |
| Audit <sup>(8)</sup>                          | 1,440                 | 3,508                 | 2,432          | 421            | 2,433               | 0              | 10,234           | 1%                                 |
| <b>Difference for operation 2009</b>          | <b>11,828</b>         | <b>21,092</b>         | <b>31,678</b>  | <b>58,212</b>  | <b>44,201</b>       | <b>15,362</b>  | <b>182,374</b>   | <sup>(9)</sup> 14%                 |
| Expressed in percentage <sup>(9)</sup>        | 7%                    | 5%                    | 17%            | 42%            | 24%                 | 8%             | ---              | 100,0%                             |

### Notes:

(1) Financial Statements are reported from six structures that have infrastructure dedicated to the Coalition purpose: Anglophone Africa (AFA), Latin America (HIC-AL), Middle East and North Africa (MENA); South-Asian Regional Program (SARP); Housing and Land Rights Network (HLRN) and the General Secretariat (HIC-GS).

(2) HIC-AA office, Mazingira Institute in Nairobi, Kenya, works in three dimensions: HIC networking in Africa; Kenyan advocacy, research and publication; and support to HIC Presidency. The reported amounts correspond to HIC networking in Africa.

(3) HIC-AL office in Mexico works in two dimensions: HIC networking and advocacy in Latin American; and Mexican advocacy. The HIC-AL accounting includes the two dimensions. 23% of the reported amounts correspond to the national Mexican activities.

(4a) Contributions to HIC-AA correspond to the 2008 project "Implementing the Habitat Agenda in the Sub-Saharan African Region", supported by the Agència Catalana de Cooperació al Desenvolupament de la Generalitat de Catalunya (ACCD).

(4b) Contributions to HIC-AL: Misereor USD72,467; Novib Oxfam USD90,000; RLS USD59,854; others USD19,667; and difference for operation 2008 (2007).

(4c) Main contributions to HIC-MENA: Ford Foundation and ICCO.

(4d) Main contributions to HIC-SARP: Tata Foundation.

(4e) Main contribution to HIC-HLRN: Misereor USD 98,159; and difference for operation 2008 (2007).

(4f) Contributions to HIC-GS: Misereor € 99,975.

(5) The staff costs cover administrative and professional staff, whose duties are not related to a specific project but to the operation and administration throughout the HIC structure.

(6) The costs of projects and activities include fees, travels, associated events, per diem, publication and promotion (websites).









(7) Administrative costs related to rent and office supplies (including telephone, ASDL and security), bank charges and fixed assets for the office (e.g.; equipment and software).

(8) Audit: For HIC-AA, the auditor is Swaly & Company, Nairobi, Kenya; for HIC-AL, Resendiz y Asociados Consultores, S.C., México DF, México; for MENA, SARP and HLRN, the auditor is Waleed al-Batawy & Assoc., Cairo, Egypt; for HIC-GS, the auditor is Canales Asociados Limitada, Santiago, Chile.







(9) The calculation of the difference in each structure—and expressed in percentage—is based on the total income. In the six cases the balance corresponds to projects to be executed at the beginning of 2009; i.e., global activities at WSF in January in Belém, Brazil; in the case of SARP, the contributions of the Tata Foundation include operations during 2009.

# HIC partners

Throughout 2008, HIC advocated before the following institutions:

|   |  |   |  |
|---|--|---|--|
|  Committee on the Elimination of Discrimination against Women (CEDAW)                        |  Committee on the Elimination of Racial Discrimination (CERD) |  Committee on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights (CESCR) |  Commission for Sustainable Development (CSD)<br>Dignity International                      |
|  Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean (ECLAC)                             |  Economic and Social Council for Western Asia (ESCWA)         |  International Labour Organization (ILO)                   |  Urban and Housing Ministries Assembly in Latin America and Caribbean (MINURVI)             |
|  United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP)   |  United Nations Development Programme (UNDP)                  |  Global Land Tools Network (GLTN)                          |  UN Human Rights Council (UNRC)<br>Office of the High Commissioner for Human Rights (OHCHR) |
|  United Nations Centre for Human Settlements UN-Habitat (International and Regional offices) |  |   |  |

The global partners HIC has been working with during 2008 include the following:

|  |   |  |   |
|--|---|--|---|
|  Africa Center for Democracy and Human Rights Studies                                       |  Ahwaz Human Rights Organization                         |  Amnesty International  |  Arab Institute for Human Rights   |
|  Arab NGO Network for Development   |  Arab Towns Organization                                 |  Asociación Latinoamericana de Organizaciones de Promoción<br>The Latin American Association of Promotion |   |
|  Association of International Dalit Solidarity   |  CEMIRADE (Center for Minority Rights and Development)  |  Center for the Study of Human Rights and Democracy  |  Centre for the Study of Violence and Reconciliation                      |
|  Centre on Housing Rights and Evictions (COHRE)   |  Congo Commission on the Legal Empowerment of the Poor |  Development Support Center   |  Frente de autoridades locales (FAL)<br>Front of Local Authorities       |
|  Fédération européenne d'associations nationales travaillant avec les sans-abri (Feantsa) |  Dignity International                                 |  ESCR-Net (Economic, Social and Cultural Rights Network)  |  Food First Information and Action Network (FIAN)                        |
|  Forced Migration and Refugee Studies Program (AU Cairo)                                  |  Forum Nacional de Reforma Urbana do Brasil (FNRU)     |  Global Call for Action Against Poverty (GCAP)  |  Habitat for Humanity<br>HIC works with HFH's regional and local offices |
|  International Alliance of Inhabitants  |  International Union of Tenants                        |  Ittijah Network of Arab Community-based Organizations in Israel  |  Lutheran World Federation   |
|  Negev Coexistence Forum (Israel)   |  Slum Dwellers International                           |  Social and Economic Rights Action Centre (SERAC) (Nigeria)   |  Transnational Institute (Netherlands)                                   |
|  UN Millennium Campaign   |  Urgence Palestine                                     |  Via Campesina  |   |

The global partners HIC has been working with during 2008 are the following:

|   |   |  |
|---|---|--|
|  "Act Together – Housing for All" campaign |  WSF, World Social Forum | • Caucus of Human Dignity and Human Rights |
|   | • International Council (IC)  | • Urban Spot                               |
|   | • Communication Commission of the IC  |  |



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For more information on HIC and its structures refer  
to the following websites:

Habitat International Coalition  
[www.hic-net.org](http://www.hic-net.org)

HIC Housing and Land Rights Network  
[www.hlrn.org](http://www.hlrn.org)

HIC - Latin America  
[www.hic-al.org](http://www.hic-al.org)



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