



2021 ANNUAL REPORT





CoHabitat is a joint initiative by grassroots federations, umbrella and non-profit organizations and academic institutions working in the field of community-led housing.

We strive to strengthen communities in their role as urban designers, developers and builders, and more broadly, in their role as active citizens of their cities. We believe in their collective capacity to develop sustainable solutions to today's urban challenges related to climate change and social transformations through solidarity and resilience.

As an open and project-driven collaboration, we work together **to demonstrate the successes and potential of community-led housing**, and make it more widespread and attainable by **co-producing** knowledge and information through experience exchanges, peer-to-peer learning and community-managed data production; **connecting** people across countries, organizations and regions; **co-designing** affordable and self-managed financial tools.



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ACRONYMS

ACHR	Asian Coalition for Housing Rights
AFD	Agence Française de Développement
CHI	Co-operative Housing International
CLH	Community-led housing
IIED	International Institute for Environment and Development
SDI	Slum Dwellers International

2021 Annual Meeting

Due to the COVID pandemic, the annual meeting of the CoHabitat Network, bringing together the main partners of the Network since 2017 in Geneva, was held online. Two exchange sessions made it possible to **maintain links, exchange practices and strengthen prospects for collaboration.**

Collaborations

This year, the project “Mapping social innovation and collaboration in housing – Co-Lab Mapping” was launched, in collaboration between urbaMonde and Co-Lab Research. This visualisation tool for collaborative living in Europe **focuses on nine countries where collaborative housing forms are well established** and represented by national umbrella organisations.

UrbaMonde has contributed to the development of the visualisation tool by providing access to its vast European network of partners, participating in the systematisation of collaborative housing initiatives and giving access to databases. Co-Lab Research and urbaMonde have explored **the possibility of integrating the database of the visualisation tool, which aggregates data on the country level, and the Cohabitat.io database**, which provides information and data at the project level.

Another important collaboration took place in the framework of a grant proposal submitted in December to the Fund for Innovation in Development - initiative piloted by the AFD. **The proposal focused on investigating and supporting local revolving funds that finance community-led housing** in Nicaragua, Senegal and Nepal. The proposal was jointly drafted by urbaMonde, IIED and ACHR, in collaboration with SDI, Fundasal, Multipro and Lumanti. **If approved, the 2-year long project will start in 2022.**

Urban October Campaign



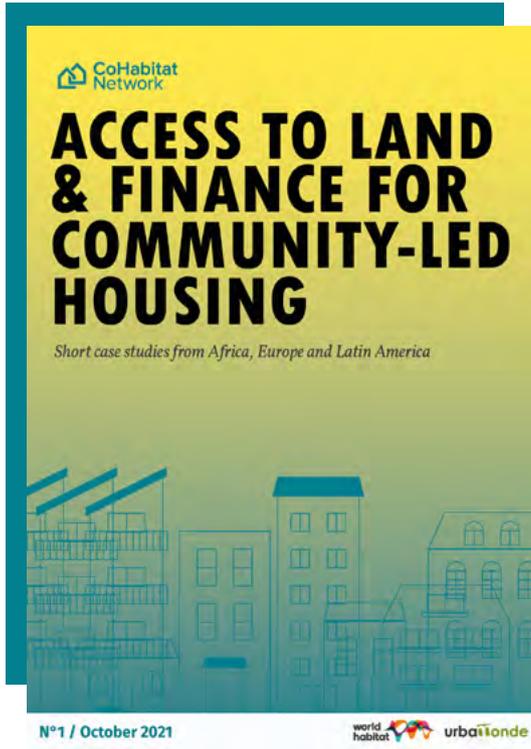
As in 2020, the CoHabitat Network participated in Urban October, the annual initiative of the UN-Habitat agency, **by carrying out an online campaign.**

This campaign aimed to spread the word about CLH initiatives, **with a focus on the access to land and financing.** A case-review study was published (see page 6), a webinar and a peer-to-peer exchange were organised (see page 7).

The campaign strengthened the exchange and collaboration with some partners by involving different organisations in the Urban October activities and by implementing **an open and collective decision-making** around the campaign with all CoHabitat Network partners.

↓ **Download the full report**

Study: Access to Land & Finance for CLH



By the initiative of World Habitat and urbaMonde, the Co-Habitat Network published a case-study review on access to land & finance for community-led housing (CLH) projects.

This short publication reviews some of **the winning projects of the CLH regional awards** by focusing on how they managed **to secure land and accessed funding** to plan and build, refurbish or improve, their living environment. A second study will follow in February 2022 with five additional case-studies.

[**↓ Download the full study**](#)

Events

«Land & Financing for Community-led Housing: learning from successful projects»

Organised by urbaMonde and moderated by the IIED

This webinar explored how different community-led housing projects have managed to secure financing and land and discussed the main challenges they faced. Projects presented: **Mehr als wohnen** (Switzerland), **Sostre Cívic** (Spain) and **Pan Thazin** (Myanmar).

► [Watch online](#)

«CLH in the spotlight»

Organised by urbaMonde and moderated by CHI and HIC

This virtual workshop gathered friends from different CoHabitat Network partner organisations: **Mohishakundu Shordarpara** (Bangladesh), **Arquitetura na Periferia** (Brazil), **Freedom Square** (Namibia), **Bofarang housing cooperative** (Thailand) and **Block 6A** (Vietnam), to present inspiring community-led housing projects. The event was coordinated by urbaMonde, World Habitat and CHI, to replace the regional CLH regional awards that the Network organised pre-COVID during in-person regional hub meetings.

► [Watch online](#)



Article “CLH: resisting evictions and foreclosure during COVID-19”

In 2020, urbaMonde carried out a global study to assess the interrelations between the type of housing and the extent to which residents are affected by the COVID-19 pandemic (in terms of health, social and economic impacts).

It was implemented on behalf of We Effect and with the active contributions of all CoHabitat Network partners.

This year, an article summarising the main results of the study was published on World Habitat’s website.

► **Read the article**

The screenshot shows the World Habitat website interface. At the top, the logo for World Habitat is visible, along with navigation links: Home, About World Habitat, Our programmes, World Habitat Awards, Publications, News, and Contact us. The main content area features the article title "Community-Led Housing: resisting evictions and foreclosure during COVID-19" dated 5 Mar 2021 by Pierre Arnold & Nina Quintas. Below the title is a large photograph of a group of people standing in front of a modern, multi-story residential building. To the left of the main image is a sidebar with sections for "In this section" (News updates, Our blog, Press Releases), a "Sign up for our newsletter" button, and a "Follow us on Twitter" section with three recent tweets. The article text begins with "Pierre Arnold and Nina Quintas are project managers at urbaMonde, a French-Swiss organisation that promotes Community-Led Housing (CLH)..." and continues to describe the study's findings on housing tenure and security during the pandemic.

Figure 1. Percentage of respondents by land occupancy status who received threats of eviction since the beginning of the pandemic.

Collaborative database CoHabitat.io

The screenshot displays the CoHabitat.io interface. At the top, there are navigation tabs for 'Projects', 'Partners', and 'Community'. Below this, a grid of project cards is visible. The first card is 'L'arche en Lil' with a photo of a group of people. Below it are 'Vereniging Groene Mient' and 'Clinka Parina - Collective House Zuglo'. To the right of these cards is a world map with colored markers indicating project locations. Below the grid, a detailed view of the 'Klong Bang Bua' project is shown, including a photo of a group of people and the following details:

Phase	Address
Building The project is under construction.	Worawadi Rangsit Klong Thap Maha Nakhon 10900 Thailand

CoHabitat.io is an open data and collaborative tool to document and connect community-led housing projects and their allies. We thank the many contributors that added or updated projects in the database this year.

Let's keep documenting community-led housing initiatives! You can also contact us for any queries or proposals regarding this collaborative tool.

► **Browse or add projects**

CoHabitat Network

Bringing together community-led housing organizations & allies from across the world, who work to secure housing through collective, non-speculative, people-led solutions.

co-habitat.net



TU Delft



GROUND
SOLUTIONS
NETWORK
strong communities
from the ground up



urbatonde
des villes durables par et pour les habitants



CoHabitat Network has the support of the Charles Léopold Mayer Foundation for the Progress of Humankind.



Fondation Charles Léopold Mayer
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