

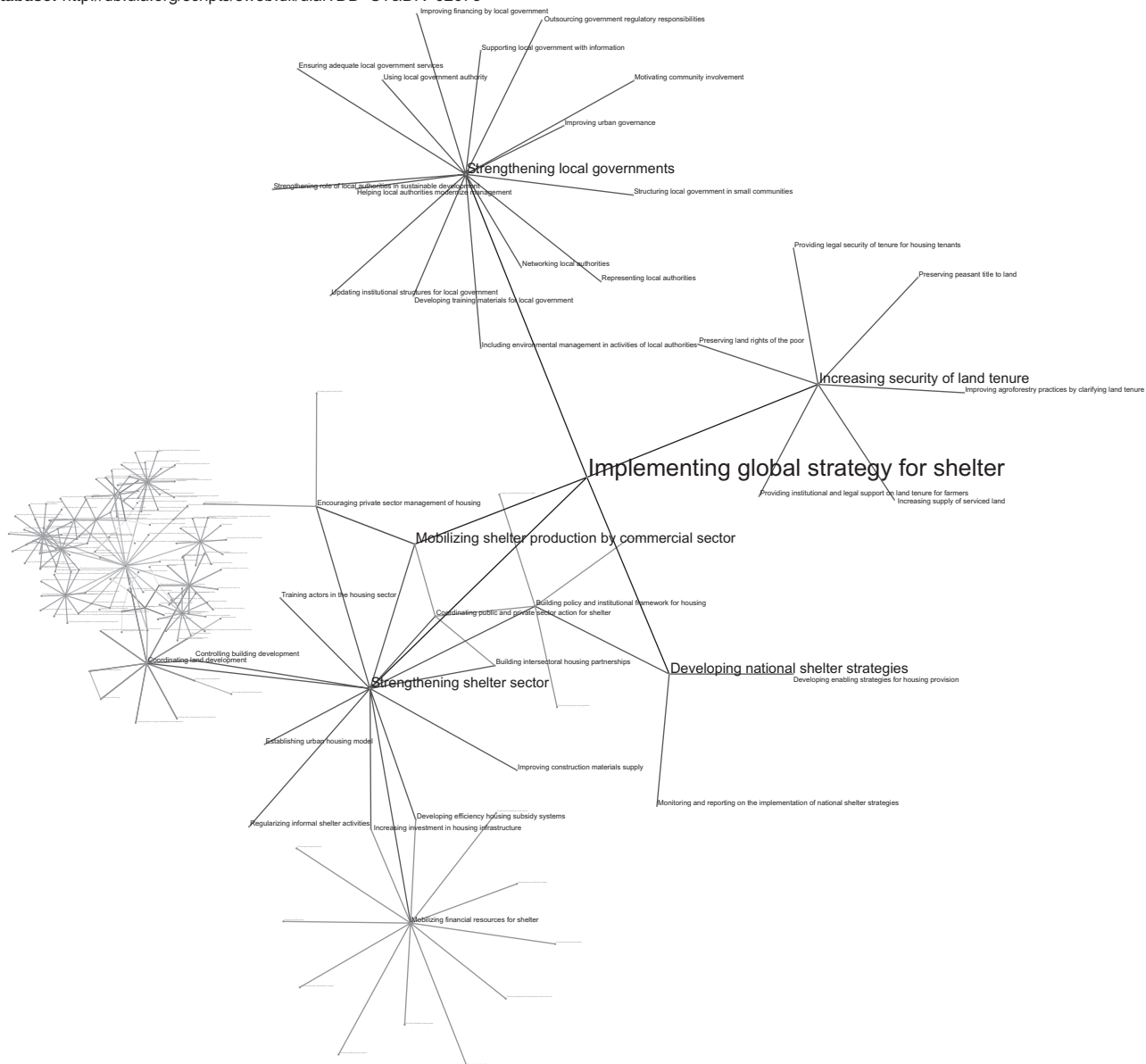
Figure 10.1.3.4. Implementing global strategy for shelter

Database: Global Strategies and Solutions

Link type: narrower strategies

Network nodes: 197

UIA database: <http://db.uia.org/scripts/sweb.dll/uiaf?DD=ST&DR=J2673>



Vast numbers of people, especially in the developing countries, do not have adequate shelter, water supply, sanitation or health care. Millions of people continue to raise their families and spend their daily lives in urban slums, on city pavements, or in make-shift rural dwellings that lack the most basic amenities. The maintenance of such conditions is not consistent with human dignity. Encouraged by the largely positive international responses to the awareness-raising efforts by the International Year of Shelter for the Homeless (IYSH - 1987), the General Assembly of the UN adopted the Global Strategy for Shelter (GSS) in 1988. Its main objective was to facilitate adequate shelter for all by the year 2000. This objective was to be achieved by putting people at the centre of development, and by adopting innovative enabling strategies for improving the conditions of those who now must live in urban slums and in dilapidated rural settlements. There is a need to mobilize resources at all levels: international organizations, foremost the UN Centre for Human Settlements (Habitat), governments, local authorities, nongovernmental and community based organizations, and the private sector must all be involved. Agenda 21, adopted in Rio de Janeiro in 1992, confirmed the goals and approaches of the GSS, which it saw as integral to the global efforts of managing our natural and human-made environment in a sustainable manner and of improving the living and working conditions of the urban and rural poor. Following the close of the Global Strategy for Shelter, the United Nations Centre for Human Settlements mandated a new strategic vision through two subprogrammes "Adequate Shelter for All" and "Sustainable Urban Development". The sub-programmes would be advanced through two global campaigns, one for Secure Tenure and the other on Urban Governance, which have been chosen as strategic entry points into the two main themes of the Habitat Agenda "adequate shelter for all" and "sustainable human settlement in an urbanizing world". The aim of both campaigns is to reduce poverty through policies which emphasize equity, sustainability and social justice. Strategic and operational partnerships with local authorities, nongovernmental organizations, the private sector and agencies within the UN system are crucial to the success of the campaigns.