

CATALOGUE OF PUBLICATIONS | 2025

POLICY, LEGISLATION AND GOVERNANCE SECTION

(URBAN-RURAL LINKAGES)



UN-HABITAT

Catalogue of Publications: Policy, Legislation and Governance Section (Urban-Rural Linkages)

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CATALOGUE OF PUBLICATIONS | **2025**
POLICY, LEGISLATION AND GOVERNANCE SECTION
(URBAN-RURAL LINKAGES)



ABOUT URL

Catalogue of Publications

The 2025 Catalogue of Publications: Policy, Legislation and Governance Section (Urban-Rural Linkages) is a compilation of PLGS, Urban-Rural Linkages normative tools and knowledge products to support governments at all levels and other stakeholders.

UN-Habitat defines urban-rural linkages as the reciprocal and repetitive flow of people, goods, and financial and environmental services between specific rural, peri-urban and urban locations.

UN-Habitat's work on [Urban-Rural Linkages \(URL\)](#) continues evolving to respond to emerging issues, and to support implementation of the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), particularly SDG 11, Target 11.a, by promoting integrated territorial approaches that enhance connections between urban, peri-urban, and rural areas.

Following adoption of the SDGs, UN-Habitat led a multi-UN agency preparation of [Habitat III Issue Paper No. 10 in 2015](#), which laid the foundation for discussions at the Habitat III Conference in 2016, emphasizing the importance of integrated territorial development.

In 2018, UN-Habitat brought together stakeholders from over 40 organizations to develop the Guiding Principles of Urban-Rural Linkages (URL-GP), launched in 2019. URL-GP offers 10 guiding principles and 11 entry points to strengthen urban-rural linkages across various sectors

Since 2019, UN-Habitat has implemented the URL programme globally, offering technical advisory, capacity development, and normative tools to governments and other stakeholders. UN-Habitat has also developed a variety of knowledge products, including guides, newsletters, policy briefs, and compendiums, compiled in this Catalogue of Publications.

Each publication has a summary and QR code. You can download your publication of interest by scanning the QR code or clicking the report cover.

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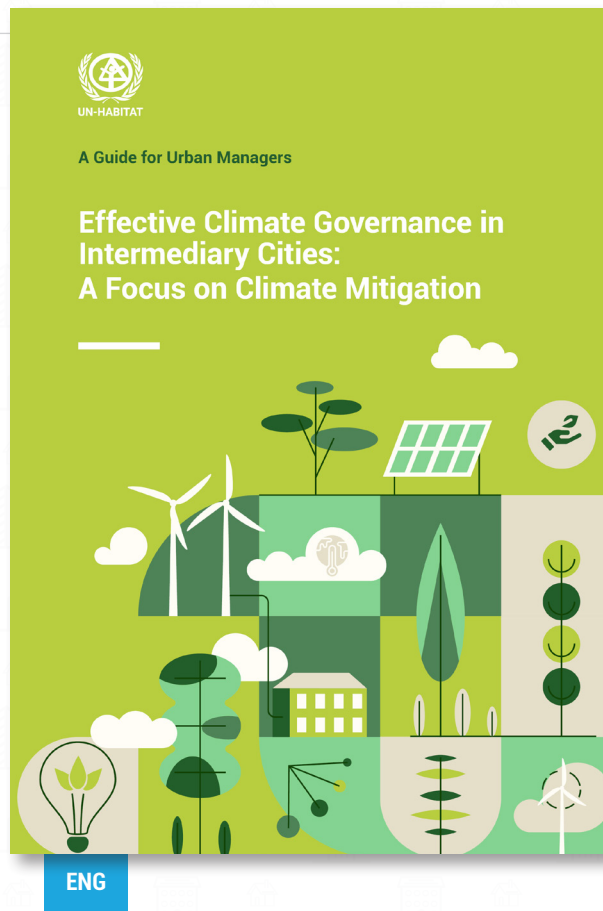
Effective Climate Governance in Intermediary Cities

As the world races toward a sustainable future, intermediary cities emerge as crucial players in effective climate mitigation. This guide offers practical insights into balancing economic development, environmental stewardship and social equity within these pivotal urban hubs. It delves into strategies such as climate-sensitive budgeting, urban planning and policy incentives that foster green transitions.

Designed for urban managers, climate champions and national or regional governments, this guide provides a roadmap for crafting resilient climate actions and navigating climate-smart urbanization. It also serves as a valuable resource for the private sector, academics, civil society and other United Nations agencies aiming to collaborate on or support climate initiatives. Equip yourself with the tools to drive meaningful climate action and lead your city toward a resilient, sustainable future.



UN-Habitat, 2025
Available in: English



Senegal Bridging the Divide: A Review of Urban-Rural Linkages

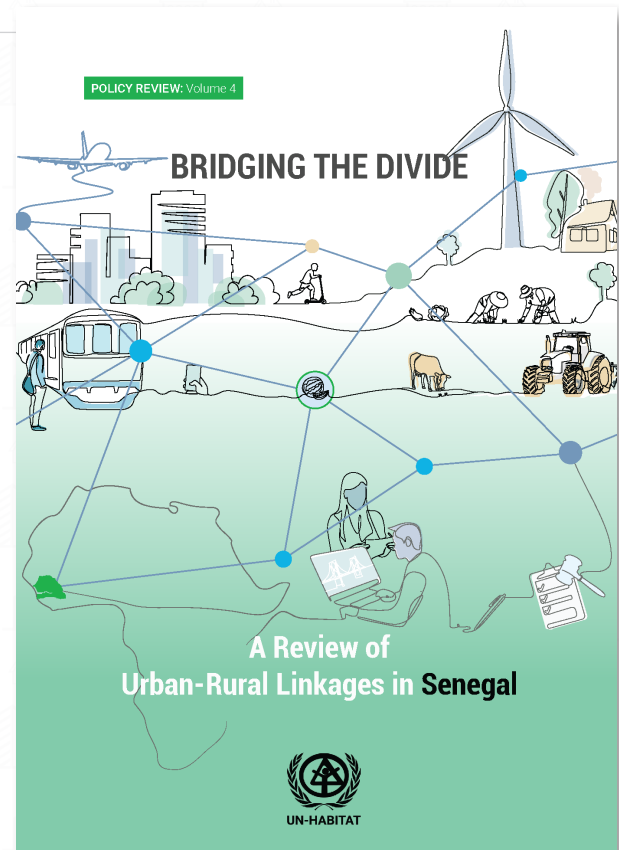
Delve into this in-depth analysis of the economic, environmental, and social challenges faced by both urban and rural communities in Senegal. Gain valuable insights into the intricate interplay between these two domains and their impact on the nation's development trajectory.

The report offers a thorough assessment of Senegal's national policies and strategies through the lens of urban-rural linkages, shedding light on their effectiveness and relevance in addressing key developmental issues. Discover how these policies shape the socio-economic landscape and influence the well-being of communities across the country. Furthermore, read more on an evaluation of institutional capacities and stakeholder engagement surrounding urban-rural linkages in Senegal. Explore the extent of institutional involvement and capacity development in addressing these challenges and uncover opportunities for enhancing collaboration and coordination among stakeholders.

Finally, read on a set of actionable policy recommendations aimed at fostering sustainable development and promoting inclusive growth in Senegal. From bolstering infrastructure and improving access to basic services to enhancing governance structures and empowering local communities, our recommendations offer a roadmap for driving positive change and building a more resilient future for all Senegalese citizens.



UN-Habitat, 2025
Available in: English



ENG

Mali Bridging the Divide: A Review of Urban-Rural Linkages

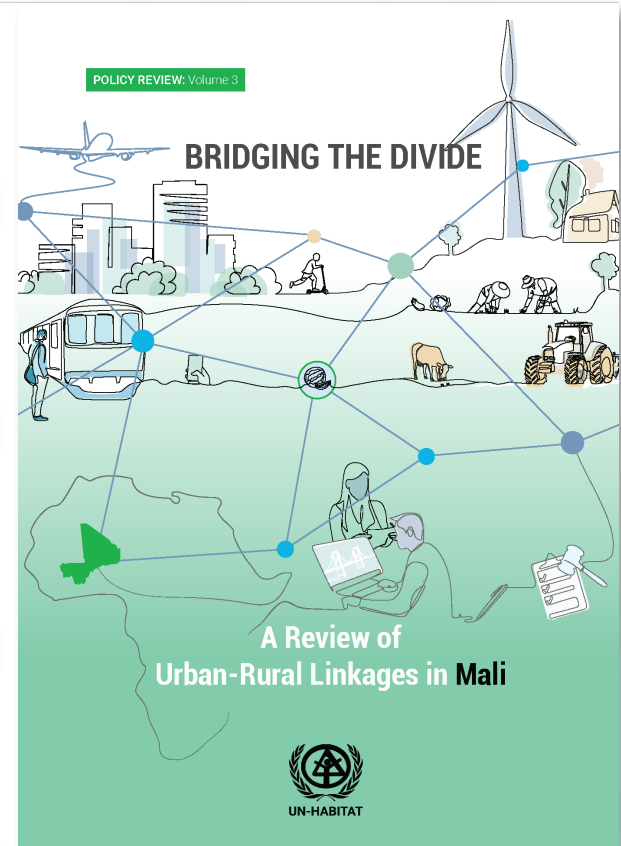
Delve into this in-depth analysis of the economic, environmental, and social challenges faced by both urban and rural communities in Mali. Gain valuable insights into the intricate interplay between these two domains and their impact on the nation's development trajectory.

The report offers a thorough assessment of Mali's national policies and strategies through the lens of urban-rural linkages, shedding light on their effectiveness and relevance in addressing key developmental issues. Discover how these policies shape the socio-economic landscape and influence the well-being of communities across the country. Furthermore, read more on an evaluation of institutional capacities and stakeholder engagement surrounding urban-rural linkages in Mali. Explore the extent of institutional involvement and capacity development in addressing these challenges and uncover opportunities for enhancing collaboration and coordination among stakeholders.

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UN-Habitat, 2025
Available in: English



Burkina Faso Bridging the Divide: A Review of Urban-Rural Linkages

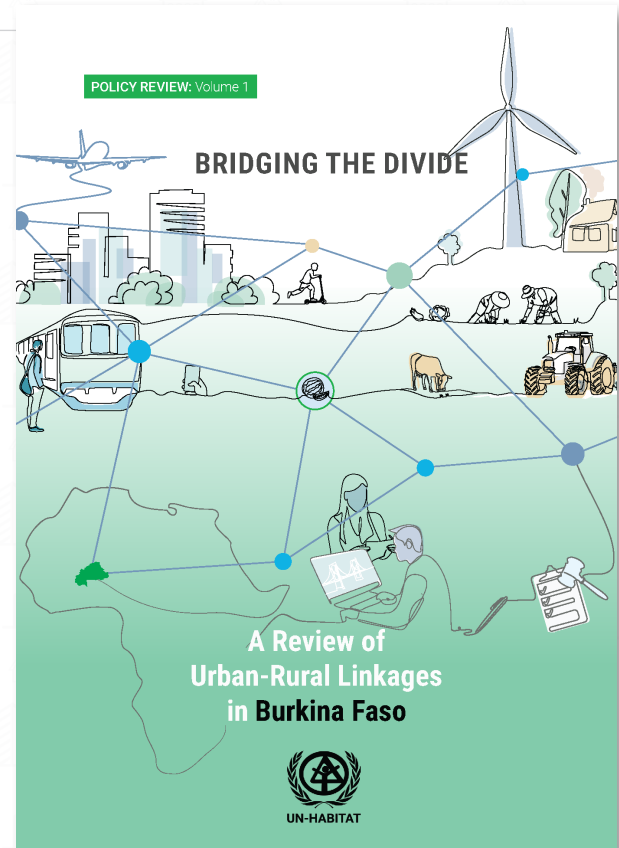
Delve into this in-depth analysis of the economic, environmental, and social challenges faced by both urban and rural communities in Burkina Faso. Gain valuable insights into the intricate interplay between these two domains and their impact on the nation's development trajectory.

The report offers a thorough assessment of Burkina Faso's national policies and strategies through the lens of urban-rural linkages, shedding light on their effectiveness and relevance in addressing key developmental issues. Discover how these policies shape the socio-economic landscape and influence the well-being of communities across the country. Furthermore, read more on an evaluation of institutional capacities and stakeholder engagement surrounding urban-rural linkages in Burkina Faso. Explore the extent of institutional involvement and capacity development in addressing these challenges and uncover opportunities for enhancing collaboration and coordination among stakeholders

Finally, read on a set of actionable policy recommendations aimed at fostering sustainable development and promoting inclusive growth in Burkina Faso. From bolstering infrastructure and improving access to basic services to enhancing governance structures and empowering local communities, our recommendations offer a roadmap for driving positive change and building a more resilient future for all Burkinabè citizens.



UN-Habitat, 2025
Available in: English



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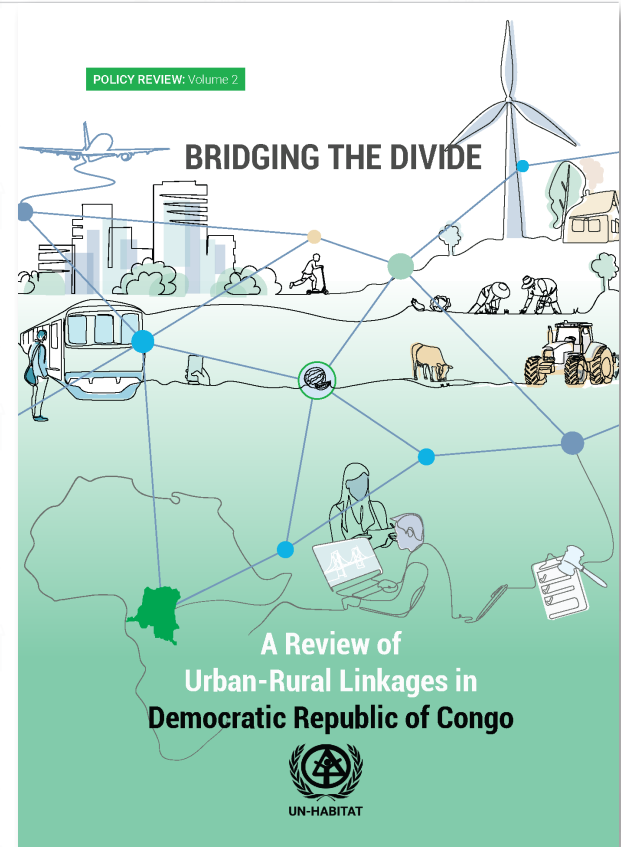
DRC Bridging the Divide: A Review of Urban-Rural Linkages

In the Democratic Republic of the Congo (DRC), the interplay between urban and rural areas holds profound implications for socio-economic development and environmental sustainability. This publication offers a comprehensive examination of the challenges and opportunities within these linkages, drawing on extensive research and a survey conducted among 53 government officials. It is part of the UN-Habitat project titled “Supporting the implementation of the New Urban Agenda through National and Subnational Urban Policies” funded by the Andalusian Agency of International Cooperation for Development (AACID).

This publication serves as a vital resource for policymakers, development practitioners, and researchers striving to promote inclusive and resilient urban-rural linkages in the DRC. By embracing the recommendations outlined herein, stakeholders can collectively advance towards a future where urban and rural communities thrive in harmony, ensuring equitable and sustainable development for all.



UN-Habitat, 2025
Available in: English



ENG

PLGS CATALOGUE OF PUBLICATIONS

8th Edition: Urban Rural Linkages Newsletter

Dear reader,

Welcome to the 8th edition of the Urban-Rural Linkages Newsletter! The latter half of 2024 has been a dynamic period, marked by significant milestones and advocacy efforts to advance the crucial topic on urban-rural linkages. This has been made possible through collaboration with diverse partners.

In this edition, we provide a comprehensive overview of the progress made since the 7th edition of the newsletter. We begin with a synthesis of the urban-rural linkages discussions at the recently concluded 12th session of World Urban Forum, highlighting key messages, takeaways and outcomes. This is followed by a summary of UN-Habitat's contribution to partner-led events, showcasing the shared commitment to strengthening urban-rural connections. The newsletter also features insights from two key partners who share their perspectives on advancing integrated territorial development. Finally, we look ahead to upcoming opportunities and initiatives to keep the momentum going as we close the year.

Thank you for your continued interest and support in promoting urban-rural linkages for sustainable development.

Enjoy the read. Access the [interactive version](#)



UN-Habitat, 2025
13 pp., 210 x 297 mm
Available in: English



URBAN-RURAL LINKAGES Newsletter

8th Edition | December 2024



EDITORIAL NOTE

Dear reader,

Welcome to the 8th edition of the UN-Habitat newsletter on urban-rural linkages! The latter half of 2024 has been a dynamic period, marked by significant milestones and advocacy efforts to advance the crucial topic on urban-rural linkages. This has been made possible through collaboration with diverse partners.

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Thank you for your continued interest and support in promoting urban-rural linkages for sustainable development.

Enjoy the read.

EDITORIAL TEAM : Grace Githiri and Antonio Kipyegon
CONTACTS: unhabitat-ur@un.org

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Urban-Rural Linkages @ WUF12



UN-Habitat at Key partner Events



Partner Perspectives



Stay updated

| UN-Habitat | Vol. 8 | December 2024
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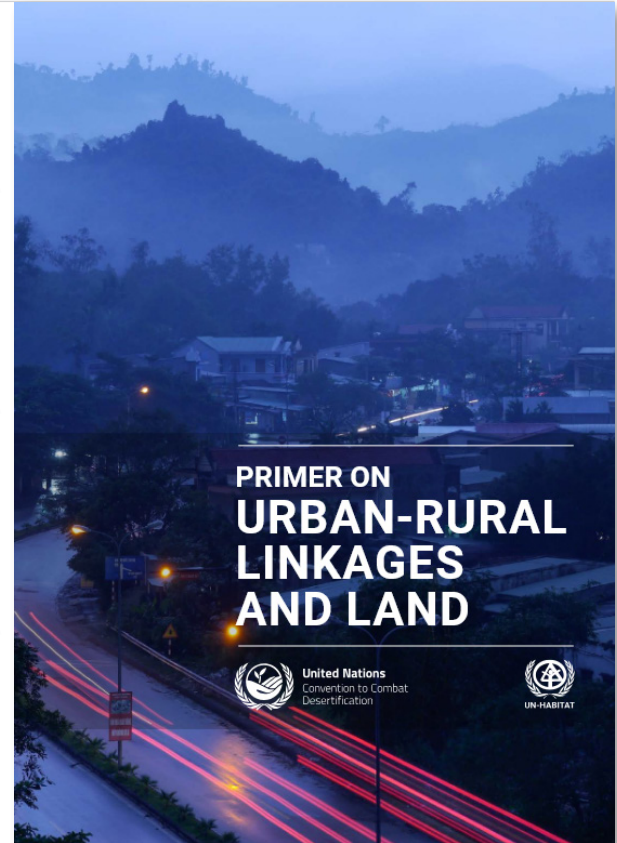
ENG

Primer on Urban-Rural Linkages and Land

The primer describes the relevant actors, frameworks, and tools that can be used to support Land Degradation Neutrality (LDN) initiatives by strengthening urban-rural linkages and making them more resilient. Key actors include national and state governments, sub-national and local authorities, the private sector, academic institutions and civil society who help shape the structure and operation of URL. Multilevel governance frameworks, integrated territorial and flow-centred approaches, and human rights-based and gender-responsive strategies are recognised to be effective in engaging diverse URL actors and enhancing LDN efforts in a variety of contexts.



UNCCD & UN-Habitat, 2024
61 pp
Available in: English



Beyond the City: Global Trends and Insights on Urban-Rural Linkages - Key Highlights Booklet

Explore the dynamic interplay between urban and rural spaces with this Beyond the City: Global Trends and Insights on Urban-Rural Linkages - Key Highlights Booklet.

This insightful booklet offers an overview of global efforts on urban-rural linkages (URLs), showcasing their significance in today's development landscape. Delve into the challenges, opportunities, and transformative trends that have shaped URLs.

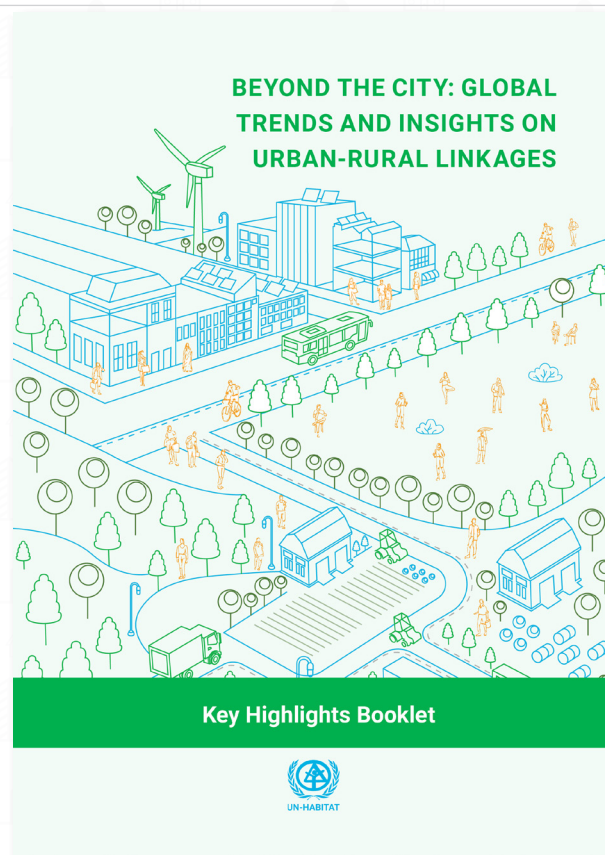
Through comparative analysis of Member States' survey responses, explore how URLs are integrated into national and subnational frameworks, and learn about the diverse actions taken globally to enhance these crucial connections.

This booklet is a preview of the global trends and insights on urban-rural linkages. This knowledge resource aligns with the UN-Habitat Strategic Plan 2020-2025 and Resolution 1/5 on Urban-Rural Linkages adopted during the inaugural UN Habitat Assembly (2019).

Join us in advancing sustainable urban-rural development and be part of shaping a more connected future.



UN-Habitat, 2024
20 pp
Available in: English



ENG

7th Edition: Urban Rural Linkages Newsletter

Welcome to the 7th edition of our newsletter on urban-rural linkages!

Since our last edition in October 2023, significant developments have unfolded for UN-Habitat urban-rural linkages work. In this edition we reflect on the highlights of the 3rd International Forum on Urban-Rural Linkages. We also share updates on UN-Habitat's collaborations with esteemed partners, including Shanghai University, the Urban-Rural Assembly, the Center for Urban-Rural Linkages in Africa and other recently firming up partnership agreements.

Additionally, this newsletter delves into the outcomes of the recently concluded expert group meeting on intermediary cities, held in Jinja, Uganda. Looking ahead, this edition previews forthcoming initiatives, such as the upcoming global report on urban-rural linkages, other collaborative knowledge products, and notable events including the 12th World Urban Forum.

Enjoy the read and please share widely.

<https://sway.cloud.microsoft/Bo6aR0UeLhKLoZGy?ref=Link>



UN-Habitat, 2024
13 pp., 210 x 297 mm
Available in: English

URBAN-RURAL LINKAGES Newsletter 7th Edition | June 2024



NOTE FROM THE EDITORS

Hello reader,

Welcome to the 7th edition of our newsletter on urban-rural linkages! Since our last edition in October 2023, significant developments have unfolded for UN-Habitat urban-rural linkages work.

In this edition we reflect on the highlights of the 3rd International Forum on Urban-Rural Linkages. We also share updates on UN-Habitat's collaborations with esteemed partners, including Shanghai University, the Urban-Rural Assembly, the Center for Urban-Rural Linkages in Africa and other recently firming up partnership agreements.

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Enjoy the read.

Inside this issue



IFURL
Highlights



Exploring the potential of intermediary cities



Other events & partnerships



Forthcoming knowledge releases

CONTACTS: unhabitat-uri@un.org | EDITORIAL TEAM: Grace Gitiriri and Antonio Kipyegon

© Songyang TV

URL Newsletter | Vol 7 | June 2024

Expert Group Meeting: Optimizing the Potential of Intermediary Cities for Urban-Rural Synergy and Territorial Resilience in East Africa

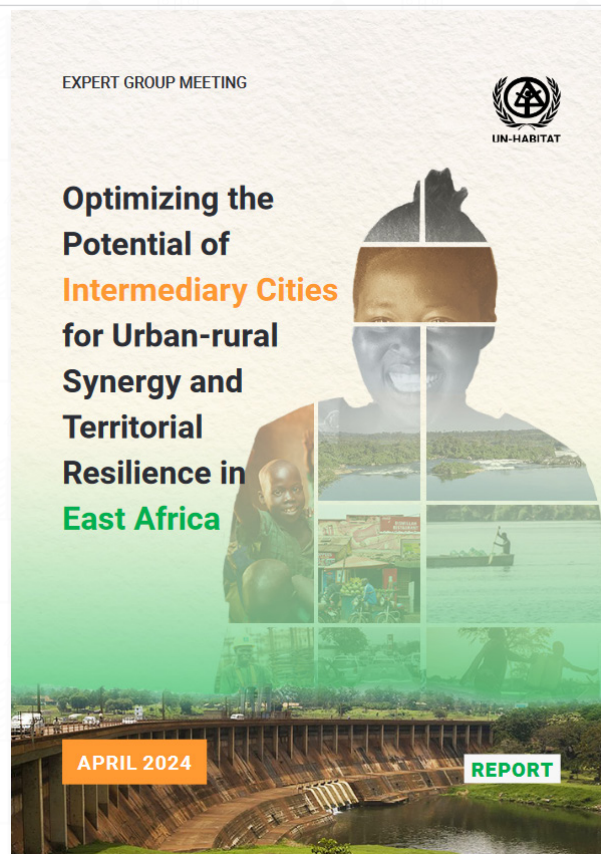
With nearly 80 percent of the world's impoverished population residing in rural areas, bridging the gap between urban and rural regions is imperative for sustainable development, amidst the global phenomenon of rapid urbanization. In this context, a two-day expert group meeting was held in Jinja, Uganda, to address the urgent need for optimizing the role and potential of intermediary cities for urban-rural synergy and territorial resilience in East Africa.

In addition, some partners underscored the need to reimagine intermediary cities as integrated ecosystems, where, for example, urban and peri-urban farming play pivotal roles.

Overall, the meeting provided a platform for stakeholders to exchange ideas, identify gaps, and propose actionable solutions. The outcomes are poised to inform future global events, advancing the discourse on ecologically sensitive urban-rural linkages.



UN-Habitat, 2024
17 pp
Available in: English



ENG

Compendium of Inspiring Practices on Urban-Rural Linkages - Third Edition

The third edition of the Compendium of Inspiring Practices on Urban-Rural Linkages showcases 17 case studies from Africa, Asia and the Pacific, Europe, Latin America, and the Middle East. These cases highlight the application of the Urban-Rural Linkages Guiding Principles and Framework for Action (URL-GP) and emphasize the importance of an integrated territorial approach.

The cases cover a range of dimensions, including design, spatial planning, project implementation, strategy, policy development and implementation, and application of normative tools. The cases highlight a multi-sectoral, multi-level, and multi-stakeholder approach, with common partnerships between different government levels, the private sector, civil society, academia, and communities.

The compendium provides inspiring examples of efforts in various areas, such as linking urban and rural, food and biodiversity, waste management, social integration, climate mitigation, and nutrition. These examples demonstrate how the URL-GP can be implemented and the positive outcomes that can be achieved.

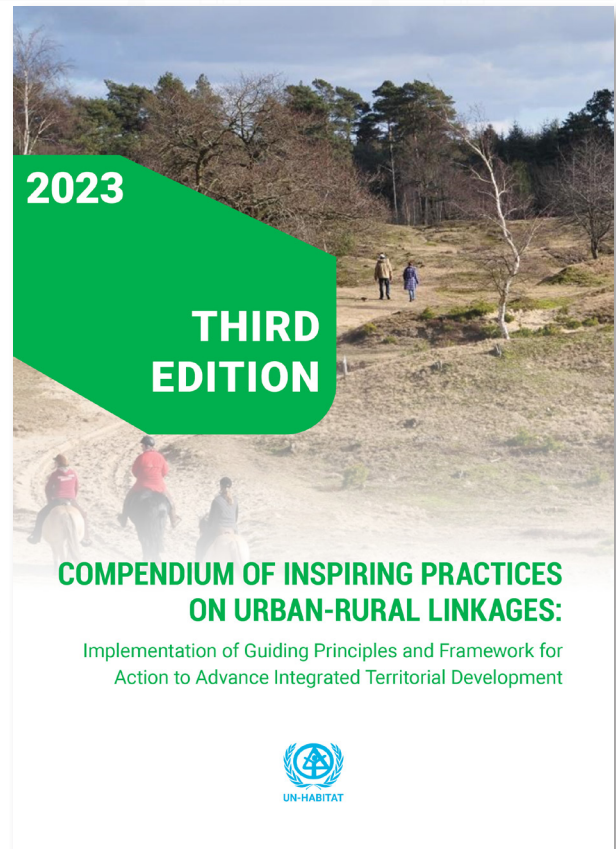


UN-Habitat, 2023

HS Number: HS/055/22E

196 pp

Available in: English



ENG

The Third International Forum on Urban-Rural Linkages Reports

DAY 1 in Brief
30th October 2023

Songyang County, China

2023浙江丽水松阳·第三届城乡联系论坛
THE THIRD INTERNATIONAL FORUM ON URBAN-RURAL LINKAGES
中国松阳第三届城乡联系论坛

智慧互联城乡 共建美好家园
ENHANCING URBAN-RURAL CONNECTIVITY TO BUILD BETTER LIVELIHOODS

The International Forum on Urban-Rural Linkages is a platform by co-organized by Department of Housing and Urban-Rural Development of Zhejiang Province, Department of Transportation of Zhejiang Province, Lishui Municipal People's Government and UN-Habitat, whose aim is to promote urban-rural linkages (URL) as an effective approach for sustainable development.

The focus is to promote sustainable rural transformation amidst urbanization through diverse topics. The forum has been held biennially the *1st* and *2nd* in 2019 and 2021, and this third edition is being held from 29th to 31st November 2023.

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iFURL3

ENG



DAY 2 in Brief
31st October 2023

Songyang County, China

2023浙江丽水松阳·第三届城乡联系论坛
THE THIRD INTERNATIONAL FORUM ON URBAN-RURAL LINKAGES
中国松阳第三届城乡联系论坛

智慧互联城乡 共建美好家园
ENHANCING URBAN-RURAL CONNECTIVITY TO BUILD BETTER LIVELIHOODS

On 31st October 2023, the world joined UN-Habitat to celebrate and conclude Urban October, and more specifically, World Cities Day (WCD) at the Municipality of Usakir (Istanbul, Turkey). Coinciding with the World Cities Day Celebrations, UN-Habitat, Department of Housing and Urban-Rural Development of Zhejiang Province, the Department of Transportation of Zhejiang Province, Lishui Municipal People's Government, Songyang County people's government, China and the 180+ diverse participants expressed enthusiasm and delight as they concluded the 3rd International Forum on Urban-Rural Linkages (iFURL3). The theme of WCD, Financing sustainable urban future for all, was well reflected with one of the subthemes of iFURL3: Resource Distribution, which sought to explore how to balance resource distribution for a more equitable urban and rural development.

The second and final day of iFURL3 featured two thematic site visits, a closing ceremony, and a symbolic group activity.

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5. Closing Ceremony	14

iFURL3

ENG



iFURL3 THIRD INTERNATIONAL FORUM ON URBAN-RURAL LINKAGES
2023年10月29日至31日 中国松阳

CONCEPT NOTE
THE THIRD INTERNATIONAL FORUM ON URBAN-RURAL LINKAGES

Theme:
Enhancing Urban-Rural Connectivity for Better Livelihoods

Sub-themes:

- Resource Distribution
- Rural Development
- Transportation

iFURL3
UN-HABITAT

ENG



Urban-Rural Linkages and Global Pandemic Disruptions in Africa Impacts on Mobility, Spatial Interaction and Food Systems

Many development practitioners have, until recently, viewed urban and rural areas as two mutually exclusive territories. However, this does not reflect the realities of the spatial and sectoral linkages between urban and rural areas. The two territories are two ends of a continuum of human settlements which are spatially and functionally interconnected and interdependent through physical, social, economic and environmental linkages that are continuously changing in time and space.

Food supply and distribution chains were largely disrupted and therefore affecting access to and availability of food in both rural and urban areas. In particular, Covid-19 exposed the interconnected vulnerabilities between food production, distribution and consumption within the context of city-region food systems. This calls for renewed territorial planning and policy agenda for national, regional and local governments, especially in sub-Saharan Africa. Sustainable urban development strategies need to consider urban-rural linkages and context in order to enhance more inclusive and resilient cities and human settlements.

Read the Summary Report [here](#).



UN-Habitat and University of Nairobi, 2023

33 pp.

Available in: English



URBAN-RURAL LINKAGES AND GLOBAL PANDEMIC DISRUPTIONS IN AFRICA

Impacts on Mobility, Spatial Interaction and Food Systems in Cameroon, Kenya, Niger State (Nigeria), Senegal and Zimbabwe



RESEARCH REPORT



ENG

Policy Review Through the lenses of Urban-Rural Linkages in Kenya

The central message of this report is that Kenya Government has, since 1963, when the country became an independent nation, committed to removing regional development imbalances. Some of such initiatives by government include construction of trunk transport and communication networks throughout the country, and designation of urban and service centres where rural communities could access services. The methodology applied in the policy review is a historical approach, which entails examining key government policies since independence. This perspective highlights the chronological progression of efforts directed at building synergetic urban-rural linkages. This report notes that, the urban-rural linkages framework was first articulated comprehensively in the five-year National Development Plan (FYNDP) for the period 1970 to 1974, which the Government of Kenya prepared. Subsequent national development plans emphasized the need for building strong rural-urban linkages as a means of removing the glaring disparity between rural and urban areas. This policy review forms a part of the collaborative project between UN-Habitat and the University of Nairobi, Kenya, on "Assessing the Impact of COVID-19 on the flows of People and Goods in the Urban-Rural Continuum"



UN-Habitat and the University of Nairobi, 2023
50 pp
Available in: English



Policy Brief Series

Policies are key instruments that guide the direction and decisions being taken in a country or institution. The role of research in influencing policy is often overlooked, yet when properly applied, research evidence through production of policy briefs could change processes and programmes in a positive way.

Policy briefs are meant to address specific gaps in policy on a specific matter and raise a call to action by policy makers and stakeholders. In addition, Policy Briefs help to bridge the gap between theory and practice, and to bring research institutions closer to the industry and practice.

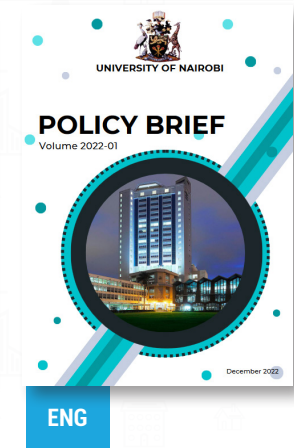
These policy briefs are part of the collaborative project between UN-Habitat and the University of Nairobi, Kenya, on "Assessing the Impact of COVID-19 on the flows of People and Goods in the Urban-Rural Continuum". The policy briefs presented in the current issue aim to inform and inspire action, empowering decision-makers to shape policies and strategies that drive positive change.



University of Nairobi, 2023
Available in: English



ENG



ENG

6th Edition: Urban Rural Linkages Newsletter

Welcome to our 6th Edition of the Urban-Rural Linkages Newsletter.

In this edition, we take stock of the progress made by UN-Habitat and partners, on urban-rural linkages, since February 2023 when the 5th edition of the newsletter was released. We also flash back to the recently concluded Second United Nations Habitat Assembly (UNHA2), focusing on key events and sessions on urban-rural linkages.

From a set of prepared guiding questions, this edition features interviews with experts (academia, field experts, government) on the concept of urban-rural linkages past, present and future. We also shed light on what's to come for the remainder of the year 2023.

We hope this newsletter inspires you to continue supporting the urban-rural linkages agenda in your work.

Enjoy the read and please share widely.



UN-Habitat, 2023
18 pp., 210 x 297 mm
Available in: English

URBAN-RURAL LINKAGES Newsletter 6th Edition | October 2023

CONTACTS: unhabitat-ur@un.org



The second session of the United Nations Habitat Assembly (UN-Habitat Assembly) Nairobi, Kenya, 4th June 2023 © UN-Habitat/Julius Mvelo

EDITORIAL TEAM NOTE

Hello Reader:

Welcome to our 6th Edition of the Urban-Rural Linkages Newsletter.

In this edition, we take stock of the progress made by UN-Habitat and partners, on urban-rural linkages, since February 2023 when the 5th edition of the newsletter was released. We also flash back to the recently concluded Second United Nations Habitat Assembly (UNHA2), focusing on key events and sessions on urban-rural linkages.

From a set of prepared guiding questions, this edition features interviews with experts (academia, field experts, government) on the concept of urban-rural linkages past, present and future.

We also shed light on what's to come for the remainder of the year 2023.

We hope this newsletter inspires you to continue supporting the urban-rural linkages agenda in your work.

Enjoy the read and please share widely.

Editorial team

Grace Othman, Hillary Sun, and Antonio Kipyegon



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Urban–Rural Linkages For Sustainable Territorial Development: Addressing Urban Transition In The NENA Region

This paper was initially the input from the United Nations Human Settlements Programme (UN-Habitat) Policy, Governance and Legislation Section to The State of Land and Water Resources for Food and Agriculture, prepared by the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO) office for the Near East and North Africa (NENA).

This background paper was meant to contribute to the chapter on “Territorial governance and the urban-rural interface” prepared by FAO. However, its preparation confirmed the importance for both UN-Habitat and FAO of urban–rural linkages for territorial development – which go beyond land and water dimensions, stricto sensu – and evidenced the challenges related with embarking on an emerging issue, such as limited evidence and lack of institutional ownership. It is therefore suggested that the paper could provide a basis for future inter-agency collaboration.

The paper aims to draw attention to the need for some degree of re-localization of development strategies for sustainable development and bridging the current urban–rural divide.

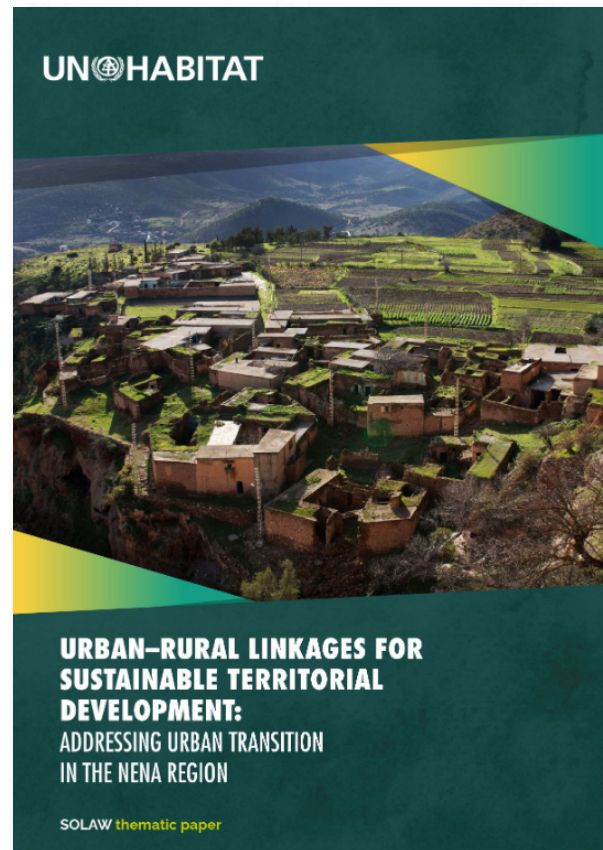


UN-Habitat, 2023

ISBN Series Number: 978-92-5-136677-6

60 pp., 210 x 297 mm

Available in: English



ENG

Intermediary Cities and Climate Change: An Opportunity for Sustainable Development

The consequences of climate change in developing countries are worsening fast: many ecosystems will shortly reach points of irreversible damage, and socio-economic costs will continue to rise. To alleviate the future impacts on populations and economies, policy makers are looking for the spaces where they can make the greatest difference. This report argues that intermediary cities in developing countries are such spaces. Indeed, in the context of fast population growth and urbanisation, these small and medium-sized cities silently play an essential role in the rapid transformation of human settlements, not least by supporting the massive flows of population, goods and services between rural and metropolitan areas.

Most of those intermediary cities are still growing: now is therefore the time to influence their dynamics, and thereby the entire design of urbanisation in those regions, in ways that limit the exposure of urban dwellers to climate shocks and avoid carbon lock-in. To that end, based on fresh evidence and policy analysis on the challenges faced by these agglomerations in the context of climate change, the report makes the case for new development approaches to avoid the unsustainable paths followed by too many cities in the recent past.



OECD & UN-Habitat, 2023

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259 pp., 210 x 297 mm, Available in: English



4th Edition: Urban Rural Linkages Newsletter

We would like to welcome our readers to the fourth edition of the Urban-Rural Linkages Newsletter (URL). Since the launch of the Urban-Rural Linkages: Guiding principles and a Framework for Action to Advance Territorial Development (URL-GP) in 2019, three editions have been released: issue 1, issue 2, issue 3.

The fourth edition covers the Second International Forum on Urban-Rural Linkages (IFURL2) held on 19th and 20th Oct 2021 in Songyang County, Southeast China. Included are reports on other events and achievements such as new collaborations under the section "URL Spotlight 2021".



UN-Habitat, 2022
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Available in: English

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Bamboo pavilion, Henglong village, Songyang, China 2019 © UN-Habitat/Lulusi Mwa

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INTRODUCTION

We would like to welcome our readers to the fourth edition of the Urban-Rural Linkages Newsletter (URL). Since the launch of the [Urban-Rural Linkages: Guiding principles and a Framework for action to Advance Territorial Development \(URL-GP\)](#) in 2019, three editions have been released: [Issue 1](#), [Issue 2](#), [Issue 3](#).

The fourth edition covers the [Second International Forum on Urban-Rural Linkages \(IFURL2\)](#) held on 19th and 20th Oct 2021 in Songyang County, Southeast China. Included are reports on other events and achievements such as new collaborations under the section "URL Spotlight 2021".

This issue also highlights a selection of projects that UN-Habitat has been implementing with partners on the localization of the URL-GP through policies and strategies. These projects contribute to the implementation of the URL Resolution titled "[HSP/HA.1/Res.6: Enhancing urban-rural linkages for sustainable urbanization and human settlements](#)" which was adopted by member states in 2019. Along with other sections, the issue presents new knowledge materials by UN-Habitat and partners on urban-rural linkages as well as upcoming events.

Background Paper: Strengthening Local Fresh Food Markets for Resilient Food Systems

Proclaimed at the highest international levels, the global food system is experiencing the worst crisis in history. Unlike the food price crisis of 2007-8, in 2022 there is convergence of multiple crises. Hunger and malnutrition have soared in the wake of the coronavirus pandemic (COVID-19). Global conflicts have triggered shocks to energy, food export-import, and fertilizer markets, spiking global inflation and economic instability. All these layered crises are overshadowed by the unfolding effects of climate change and severe biodiversity loss with powerful impacts on food production systems in all regions. The food supply chain vulnerability which became pronounced in the first and continuing COVID-19 surges remain precarious in the multi-layered context of crisis, particularly for longer distance and magnitude are overwhelming governance capacities at all levels. This work on the role of food markets in enhancing food systems is a culmination of consultations with several partners, with UN-Habitat as convener.



UN-Habitat | WUWM | HealthBridge Foundation of Canada |
UCLG | ICLEI | Regions4 | GAIN | FAO, 2022
15 pp., 210 x 297 mm
Available in: English

STRENGTHENING LOCAL FRESH FOOD MARKETS FOR RESILIENT FOOD SYSTEMS

A COLLABORATIVE DISCUSSION PAPER

ENG

Managing Urban-Rural Linkages for Biodiversity

Launch of the Post-2020 Global Biodiversity Framework requires an integrated territorial (both urban and rural) approach for the sustainable management of biodiversity. Linkages between urban processes and rural transformation across municipalities, countries and world regions are essential for biodiversity conservation.



UN-Habitat, 2021
50 pp., 210 x 297 mm
Available in: English



MANAGING URBAN-RURAL LINKAGES FOR BIODIVERSITY

An integrated territorial approach

Position Paper for CBD COP 15 to be completed with final language
for Global Framework for Biodiversity (GBF) targets

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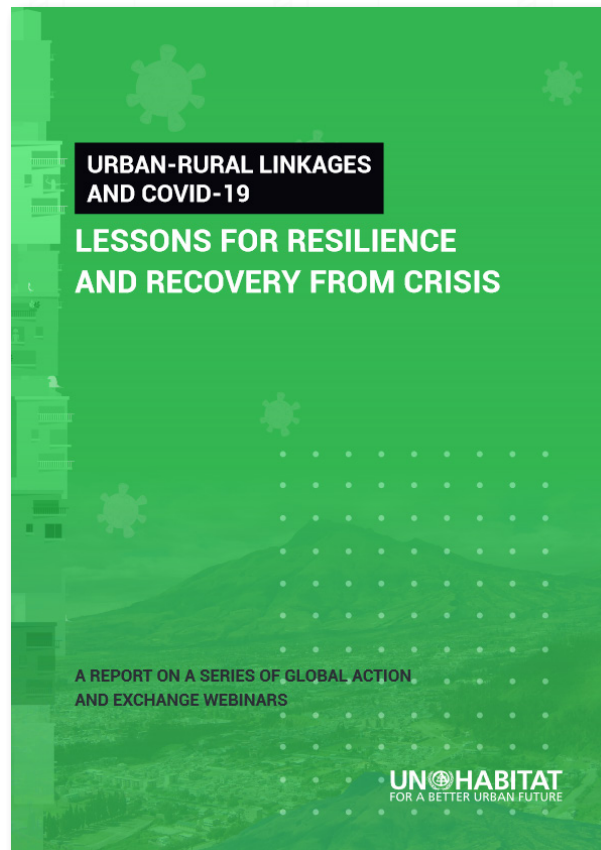
 Convention on
Biological Diversity

URLs-COVID and Lessons for Resilience and Recovery from Crisis

This report presents the results of rapid mobilizing in 2020 on the part of the Urban- Rural Linkages (URL) team in the Policy, Legislation and Governance Section (PLGS) of the Urban Practices Branch of UN-Habitat to capture the experiences and lessons being learned from the COVID-19 pandemic through the lens of urban-rural linkages. The vehicle for capturing these experiences in real time was live webinars featuring key speakers and interactive discussion from 109 countries there were nearly 6,000 registrants. Experiences were presented from all regions and all scales of settlements, from villages and neighbourhoods to large cities and metropolitan regions. The pre-pandemic context of work on urban-rural linkages informed the design of the webinars, which were organized to understand how urban-rural relations were impacted or were important to the response and recovery effort of cities, regions and territories.



UN-Habitat, 2021
26 pp., 210 x 297 mm
Available in: English



The Role of Intermediary Cities in Strengthening Urban-Rural Linkages in Africa

In the wake of rapid urbanization in Africa, the importance of intermediary cities in strengthening urban-rural linkages is growing exponentially. In recognition of this trend, UN-Habitat and the United Cities and Local Government of Africa (UCLGA) organized a webinar on the role of intermediary cities in strengthening urban-rural linkages in Africa, amidst rapid urbanization on the continent. The event was held virtually and served as preparation for the upcoming 9th session of the Africities Summit to be held in Kisumu, Kenya in May 2022.



THE ROLE OF INTERMEDIARY CITIES IN STRENGTHENING URBAN-RURAL LINKAGES IN AFRICA

WEBINAR REPORT
21 JANUARY 2022

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UN-Habitat, 2021
50 pp., 210 x 297 mm
Available in: English

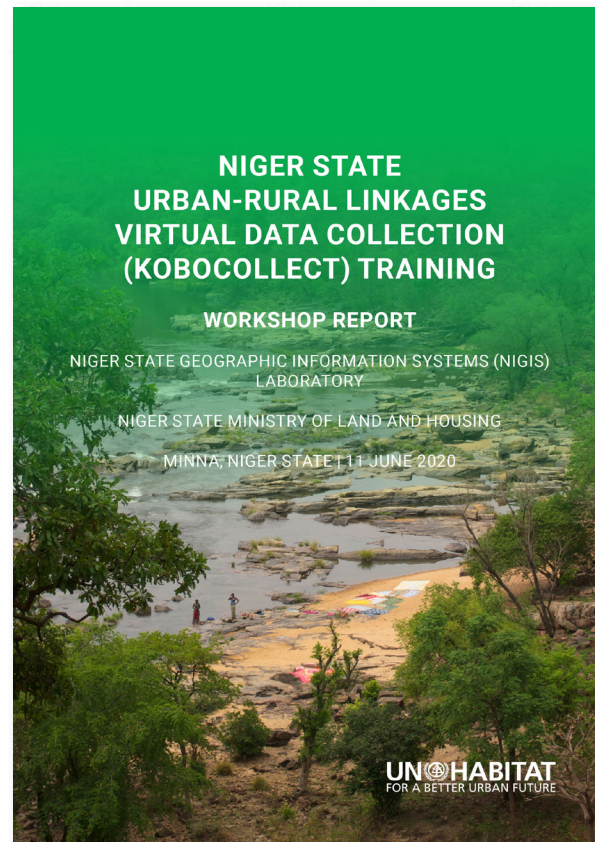
Niger State Urban-Rural Linkages Virtual Data Collection (Kobocollect) Training- workshop report

The main objective of the training was to strengthen the technical capacity of the development actors on a collection of reliable data for better-informed policymaking using digital tools. The workshop further aimed the following:

- » Increasing awareness of the participants about the normative work of UN-Habitat on urban-rural linkages (URL).
- » Sharing the outcomes of preliminary assessments (URL challenges and opportunities, capacity gaps assessment, participation assessment) as part of the Niger State URL project.
- » Increasing awareness of the participants about URL (virtual) data collection tools.
- » Increase partnerships between relevant ministries working on URL related work.



UN-Habitat, 2021
22 pp., 210 x 297 mm
Available in: English

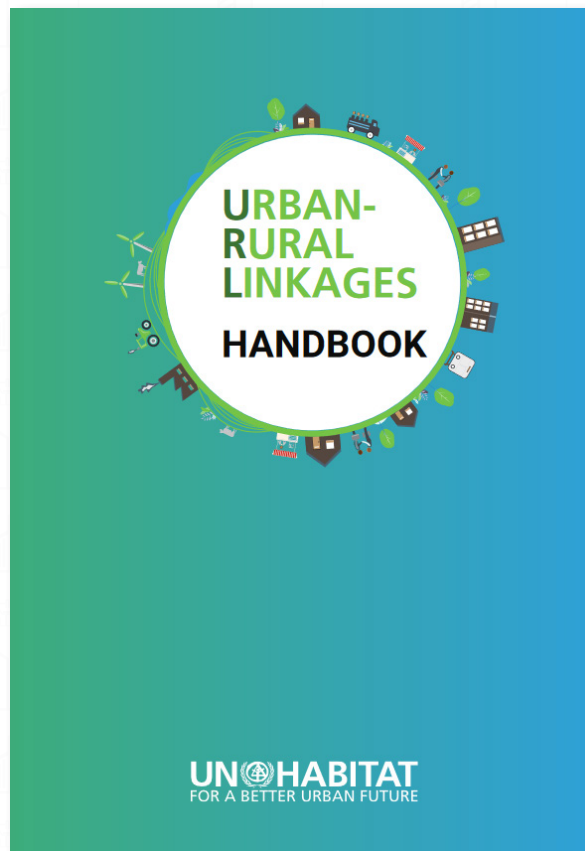


Urban-Rural Linkages Handbook

Sustainable Development Goal 11 is “the urban goal” and aims to “make cities and human settlements more inclusive, safe, resilient and sustainable”. Target 11.a requests to “support positive economic, social and environmental links between urban, peri-urban and rural areas by strengthening national and regional development planning.” With target 11.a, Member States acknowledged the importance of the linkages between urban and rural areas and lay the foundation for an integrated territorial approach. Urban-Rural linkages have again come into focus, not only for achieving SDG 11, but also SDGs 2, 9 and 12 among others.



UN-Habitat, 2021
24 pp., 210 x 297 mm
Available in: English



Defining and Validating UrbanRural Linkages Priorities in Zanzibar: Reflection Workshop Report

This workshop was divided into three sessions: Introducing Urbanrural linkages; Understanding Urban-rural linkages: Guiding Principles and framework for Action (URL-GP); and defining functional territories and identifying capacity gaps. This report presents the structure of the workshop and the key issues discussed.

Discussions on functional territories focused on Zanzibar city (an urban area) and Wete in Pemba (a rural area) due to various flows of goods and services between the two. The reasons for the movement between the two territories were classified into four categories, namely: people; goods; waste; and information (see Annex 2). The challenges and recommendations were addressed for every category as indicated in Annex 3. Furthermore, the participants addressed opportunities for supporting the spatial flow for every category, as indicated in Annex 4. Three key challenges were identified for the functional territories: limited agro-processing activities, insufficient transportation systems and lack of infrastructure and services provision.



UN-Habitat, 2021
26 pp., 210 x 297 mm
Available in: English



DEFINING AND VALIDATING URBAN-RURAL LINKAGES PRIORITIES IN ZANZIBAR

REFLECTION WORKSHOP
ZANZIBAR, 29 DECEMBER 2020

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Localizing Urban-Rural Linkages Tools and Methodologies in Selected African Countries (EGM Report)

This Expert Group Meeting (EGM) is a continuation of the implementation of the UN Development Account (UNDA) funded project "Leaving No Place Behind – Strengthening Urban-Rural Linkages in Africa".

The EGM brought together associated implementing partners, national/sub-national representatives (of each project country) and international experts. It served to define the Urban-Rural Linkages (URL) tools and capacity building programs (e.g. training programs and a platform to access information on the topic) that need to be further developed or adapted to best meet capacity development needs in Africa and other regions.

The improved learning materials will hopefully support countries' efforts to integrate Urban-Rural Linkages in existing or newly formulated policies, integrate them into regional and territorial development strategies/ plans, and consider cross-cutting issues such as human rights, rural-urban migration, youth and gender.



UN-Habitat, 2021
50 pp., 210 x 297 mm
Available in: English



Territorial Approaches for Sustainable Development: Stocktaking on Territorial Approaches – Experiences and Lessons

Perspectives and approaches that put territories at the centre of development have returned to become important in international debate and policy to implement the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development. Among the reasons for the renewed emphasis is the need to improve the effectiveness of sectoral approaches, to localise sustainable development, to better manage myriad and complex challenges now facing communities around the world and to take action for inclusive and equitable development. But how do we understand territorial approaches and what do they accomplish?

This stocktaking seeks to substantiate the value of territorial approaches by documenting good practices, describing their benefits, identifying lessons and offering recommendations for future implementation of territorial approaches. This report is written primarily for policy makers, programme

managers and practitioners who are looking for examples of successful territorial approaches and the means by which success was achieved. It is important to note that the case studies preceded the global coronavirus or COVID-19 pandemic.



GIZ, 2021
102 pp., 210 x 297 mm
Available in: English



Virtual Regional workshop report on Implementing the UNDA Urban-Rural Linkages Project in the light of the Covid-19 pandemic

UN-Habitat successfully held the virtual workshop “Implementing the UNDA UrbanRural Linkages (URL) Project in the light of the COVID-19 pandemic”. More than 50 participants attended the workshop, including national and local government officials, NGO and private sector representatives, youth representatives, academics and researchers from Niger State of Nigeria and Zanzibar.

This virtual workshop is a continuation of the implementation of the UN Development Account funded project “Leaving No Place Behind - Strengthening Urban-Rural Linkages in Africa”. The objectives of the workshop were:

1. To share the outcomes from the previous workshops and discussion of the overall progress of the project in each country,
2. To present and discuss the impacts of covid-19 in each country that are relevant for this project, and
3. To propose a way forward for the project activities while addressing relevant issues arising from COVID-19 impacts.



UN-Habitat, 2021
28 pp., 210 x 297 mm
Available in: English



VIRTUAL REGIONAL WORKSHOP ON IMPLEMENTING THE UNDA URBAN- RURAL LINKAGES PROJECT IN THE LIGHT OF THE COVID-19 PANDEMIC

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Alliance for a Green Revolution in Africa (AGRA): Africa Agriculture Status Report; Chapter 6 on The Role of African Cities in Strengthening Agri-food Systems

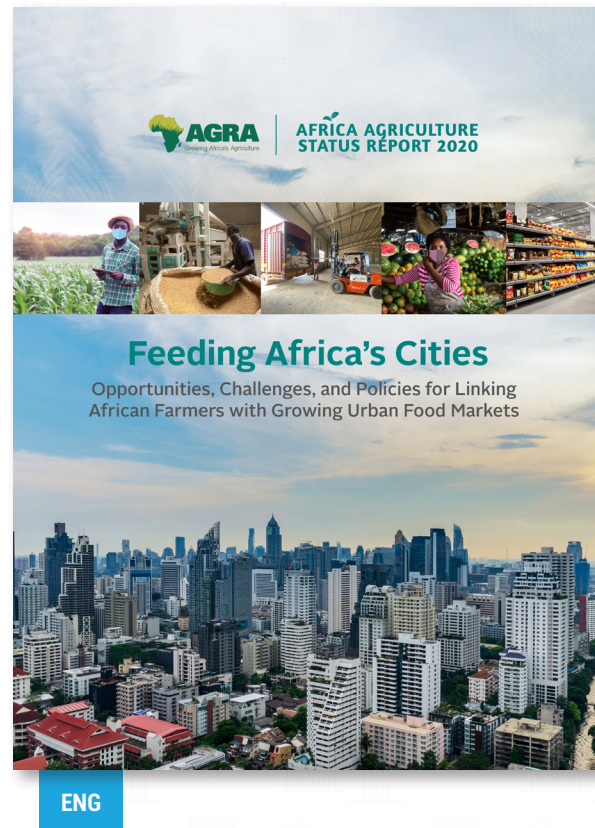
Africa's cities currently provide the largest and most rapidly growing agricultural markets in Africa. Out of total urban food sales of roughly US\$200 to US\$250 billion per year, over 80% comes from domestic African suppliers. In the coming decades, demographic projections forecast rates of African urbanization as the highest in the world.

Today – and even more so tomorrow – Africa's rapidly growing cities and food markets offer the largest and fastest growing market opportunity available to the continent's 60 million farms. One-half of these farms involve young people, contrary to widely held perceptions.

AGRA and partners core commitment to smallholder agriculture must now focus on urban food markets, to position domestic suppliers as competitive, responsive and safe; to provide the right signals and inputs to those markets; and continue growing opportunities for young people in the agriculture sector.



AGRA, 2021
262 pp., 210 x 297 mm
ISSN 2313-5387
Available in: English



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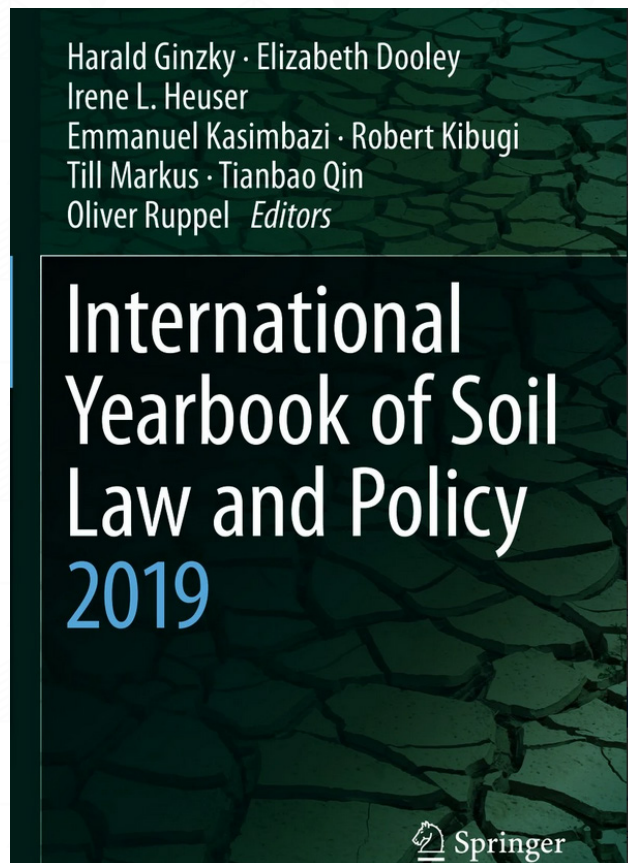
International Yearbook of Soil Law and Policy 2019: The UN-Habitat Urban-Rural Linkages Guiding Principles: Assessment of the Adoptability to Topical Land Management Challenges in Germany, Kenya and Tanzania (Chap 10)

This book presents an important discussion on the implementation of sustainable soil management in Africa from a range of governance perspectives. It addresses aspects such as the general challenges in Africa with regard to soil management; the structural deficiencies in legal, organizational and institutional terms; and specific policies at the national level, including land cover policies and persistent organic pollutants.

This fourth volume of the International Yearbook of Soil Law and Policy is divided into four parts, the first of which deals with several aspects of the theme 'sustainable soil management in Africa.' In turn, the second part covers recent international developments, the third part presents regional and national reports (i.a. Mexico, USA and Germany), and the fourth discusses cross-cutting issues (i.a. on rural-urban interfaces). Given the range of key topics covered, the book offers an indispensable tool for all academics, legislators and policymakers working in this field.



Springer Nature Switzerland, 2021
432 pp., 210 x 297 mm
ISBN 978-3-030-52317-6 (eBook)
Available in: English



3th Edition: Urban Rural Linkages Newsletter

Since the last issue of the Newsletter issued earlier last year, life has changed for us all. This issue presents the activities that, since then, UN-Habitat and partners have conducted to highlight the role of territories and urban-rural linkages in responding to challenges generated by the pandemic.

This edition includes insights from nine global webinars organized between May and December 2020. It also contains short articles on urban-rural linkages, such as an experimental framework for new approaches in urban-rural planning and governance from Thuringia, Germany, and a short piece on the key role of small and intermediary cities as part of the development of a national strategy in Morocco.

Find out more in this edition about market cities, the importance of urban-rural linkages for biodiversity and climate change, the first international conference of the Urban-Rural Assembly, and the role of global regions implementing the New Urban Agenda post-COVID 19.



UN-Habitat, March 2021
16 pp., 210 x 297 mm
Available in: English



Synthesis Report: Urban-Rural Linkages at WUF10

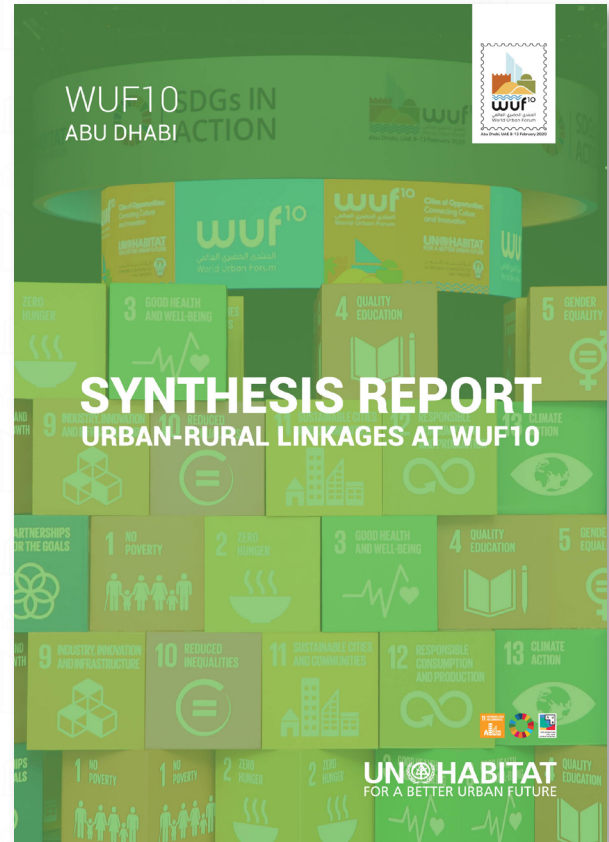
The Tenth Session of the World Urban Forum (WUF 10) was held from 8-13 February 2020 in Abu Dhabi, United Arab Emirates. The theme of this session of the World Urban Forum was 'Cities of Opportunities: Connecting Culture and Innovation'. Culture brings together knowledge, art, belief, capabilities, habits, morals and behaviours, is widely recognized as playing a key role in the growth and development of cities.

During WUF 10, the Policy, Legislation and Governance Section (PLGS) of UN-Habitat and partners organized different official events: side events, networking events and book launches.

It also organized a number of informal events at booths with partners on different thematic areas, such as Urban-Rural Linkages. UN-Habitat coorganized one networking event with Shaanxi Village and Town Construction Research Centre of Xi'an University, China, one side event with Songyang County Peoples' Government, China, one book launch and several additional discussions that took place at the exhibitions.



UN-Habitat, May 2021
45 pp., 210 x 297 mm
Available in: English



ENG

Mainstreaming Urban-Rural Linkages in National Urban Policies: A Guide

This Guide on mainstreaming urban-rural linkages in national urban policies brings these parallel efforts together. The first part provides the rationale and process for bringing URLs into NUP formulation or revision. The second part addresses how to mainstream URLs in policy and the third part provides recommendations based on 15 national and subnational experiences in different regions.

Tools are provided in appendices to assess the level of incorporation of URLs in NUPs in each of the four phases of policy formation, assess the degree of stakeholder participation, and possible recommendations based sections from the URL-GP Framework for Action.

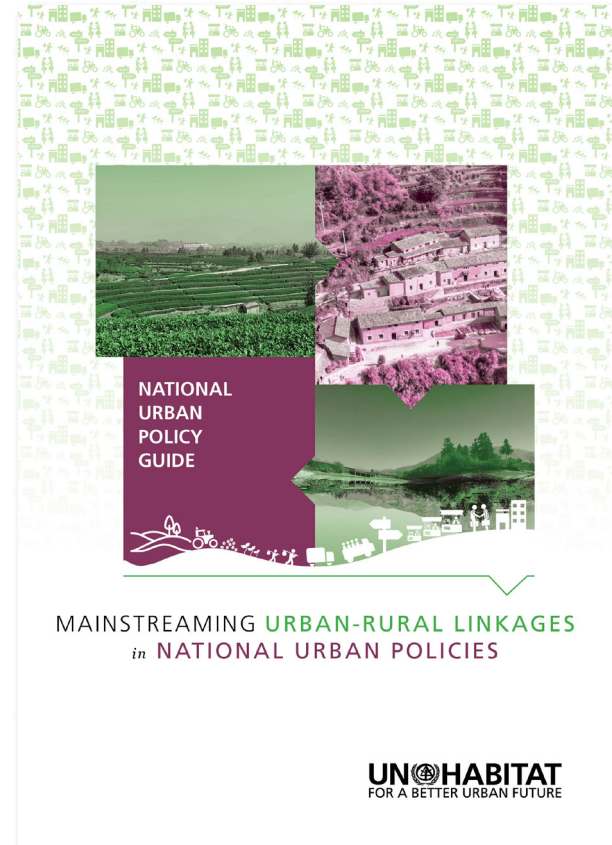


UN-Habitat, 2020

HS Number: HS/006/20E

75 pp

Available in: English



ENG

Second compendium of inspiring practices on urban-rural linkages: Implementation of guiding principles and framework for action to advance integrated territorial development

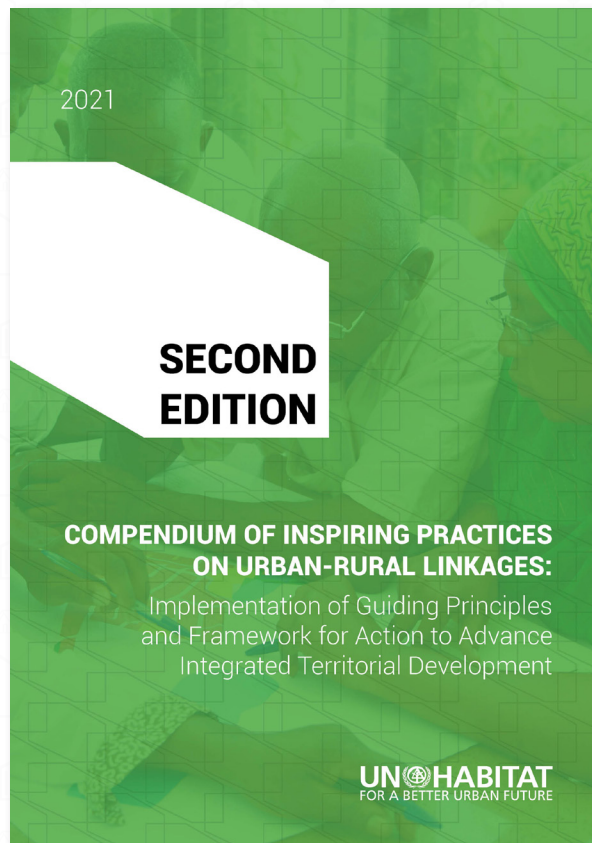
The Compendium of Inspiring Practices on Urban-Rural Linkages is an ongoing initiative at UN-Habitat for which new experiences - policies, strategies, tools, interventions, geographic or thematic projects - are continuously collected. The compendium aims to inform both general and expert audiences about current practices and efforts around the globe to strengthen urban-rural linkages and advance integrated territorial development.

It also seeks to demonstrate the application of the Urban-Rural Linkages: Guiding Principles and Framework for Action (URL-GP) at both national and subnational levels. Experiences presented inform readers about the roles of different stakeholders in strengthening urban-rural linkages, including governments, intergovernmental organizations, development cooperation agencies, civil society organizations, academia, research institutions and the private sector.

The practices undertaken by different stakeholders and their interaction with other relevant actors will hopefully inspire and promote increased collaboration and cooperation between them in other countries and situations.



UN-Habitat, March 2021
168 pp., 210 x 297 mm
Available in: English



2nd Edition: Urban Rural Linkages Newsletter

Welcome to the second Issue of the Urban-Rural Linkages Newsletter. This Issue is primarily dedicated to updating you on the First International Forum on Urban-Rural Linkages (IFURL 1) and the 10th session of the World Urban Forum (WUF10).

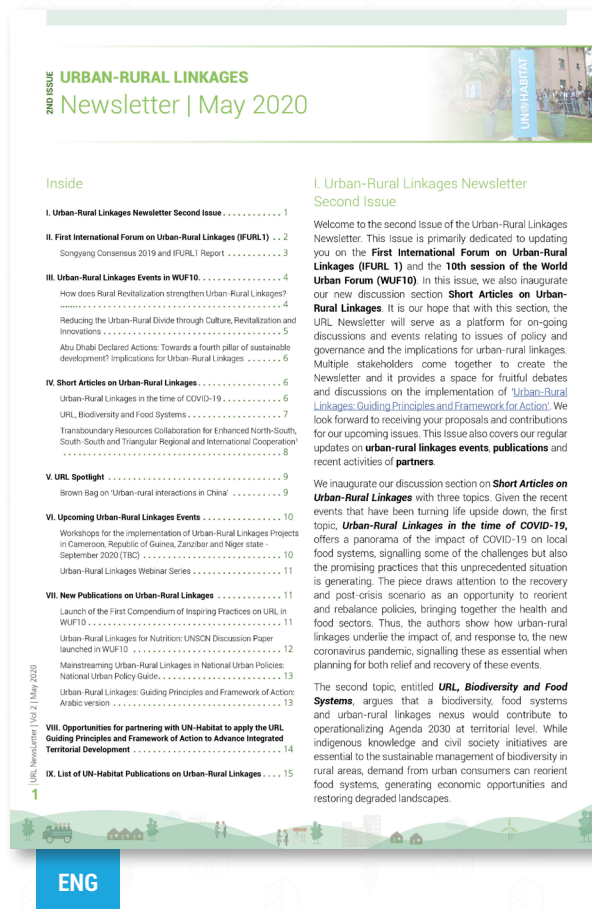
In this issue, we also inaugurate our new discussion section Short Articles on Urban-Rural Linkages. It is our hope that with this section, the URL Newsletter will serve as a platform for on-going discussions and events relating to issues of policy and governance and the implications for urban-rural linkages.

Multiple stakeholders come together to create the Newsletter and it provides a space for fruitful debates and discussions on the implementation of 'Urban-Rural Linkages: Guiding Principles and Framework for Action'. We

look forward to receiving your proposals and contributions for our upcoming issues. This Issue also covers our regular updates on urban-rural linkages events, publications and recent activities of partners.



UN-Habitat, May 2020
15 pp., 210 x 297 mm
Available in: English



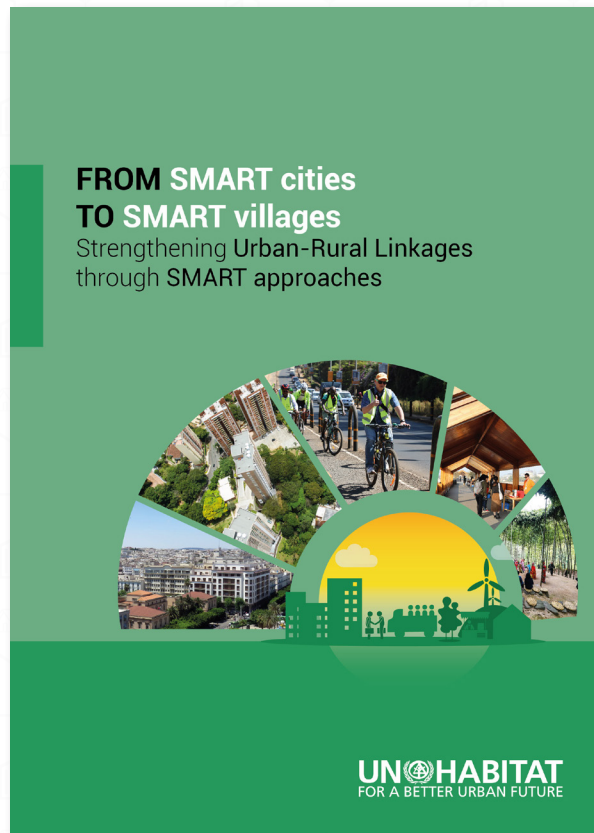
From SMART Cities to SMART Villages: Strengthening Urban-Rural Linkages through Smart approaches

To implement the New Urban Agenda, 22 issue papers covering six major areas related to housing and sustainable urban development were presented in Habitat III. They summarize the research areas of UN-Habitat, highlight general findings and identify the research needs.¹⁶ Among them, Issue Paper 10, Urban-rural Linkages, and Issue Paper 21, Smart City, are most closely associated with smart villages.

The creation of smart villages could address several challenges. It could open up not only employment avenues but also raise living standards in villages where infrastructure is palpably absent. This is a crucial aspect that could stem conventional migration from villages to cities, which is putting pressure on urban infrastructure and leaving a huge social impact.¹² Some planners, developers and government organizations are starting to work on ideas to make towns and villages smarter and more connected.



UN-Habitat, 2020
100 pp., 210 x 297 mm
Available in: English



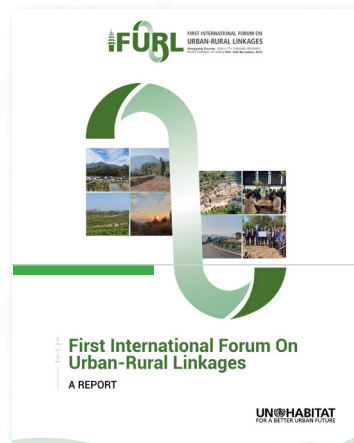
ENG

The First International Forum on Urban-Rural Linkages: A Report

This report accompanies the Songyang Consensus with summaries of presentations and outcomes of the first International Forum on Urban-Rural Linkages.

The Forum provided an Opportunity for global challenges and national or local strategies for integrated urban and rural development to be informed by discussions and experiences of rural revitalization from many perspectives, to share reflections on urban and rural sustainable development, and within a broader scope, to call for a strengthening of sustainable innovation and development in rural areas of all countries.

The conference recognized a common aspiration and pursuit of “shared cities and regions for all” and “equal rights and opportunities for all residents in cities and all other settlements in the continuum of human settlements”. These and other sentiments were captured in a “2019 Songyang Consensus” drafted by the co-organizers, providing a very brief summary.



English



Chinese

Issue Brief: COVID-19 through the Lens of Urban Rural Linkages-Guiding Principles and Framework for Action (URL-GP)

Over the two years preceding the global outbreak of CoronaVirus Disease 2019 (COVID-19), UN-Habitat and more than 130 stakeholders from over 40 international organizations contributed to an initiative called Urban-Rural Linkages: Guiding principles and framework for action (URL-GP). There was broad consensus that resilient and inclusive urban-rural linkages are key to the implementation of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development and the SDGs to respond to the call to “Leave No One Behind” and the New Urban Agenda (NUA) call to “Leave No Place Behind.”

The URL-GP can provide a framework to clearly address flows of people, goods, information and services when planning interventions to slow infection rates while addressing social protection and health services.

This integrated approach is what the guiding principles and framework for action of the URL-GP were designed for, to assist governments and their private sector and civil society partners with assessment, planning and policy development tools. In the context of the COVID-19 crises, the URL-GP therefore can be a useful tool for governments and other stakeholders.



UN-Habitat, June 2020
4 pp., 210 x 297 mm
Available in: English

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COVID-19 through the Lens of Urban Rural Linkages - Guiding Principles and Framework for Action (URL-GP)



Over the two years preceding the global outbreak of CoronaVirus Disease 2019 (COVID-19), UN-Habitat and more than **130 stakeholders** from over **40 international organizations** contributed to an initiative called **Urban-Rural Linkages: Guiding principles and framework for action (URL-GP)**. There was broad consensus that resilient and inclusive urban-rural linkages are key to the implementation of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development and the SDGs to respond to the call to “**Leave No One Behind**” and the New Urban Agenda (NUA) call to “**Leave No Place Behind**”.

Stakeholders agreed to 10 principles and 11 fields of action drawn from different sectors and thematic areas of focus. Current and predicted urbanization trends - increasingly associated with poverty, vulnerability, and inequality - are closely related to processes of rural transformation and rural to urban migration. Before COVID-19, rapid urbanization and rural transformation had already generated an acute public health concern. The goal of the URL-GP is to balance strategies and policies to reduce poverty and inequality across the urban-rural continuum, including access to public health services. The current crisis and its aftermath are driving home the need to work in new integrated ways.

It has become evident that urban-rural flows of people, goods, services, resources and capital must be considered more carefully in the short, medium and long-term response to COVID-19. In recent months, the virus spread from China and Eastern Asia to most countries in the world and was officially declared a pandemic by WHO on 11 March 2020. Responses differ from country to country, with local and national government responses being to promote social distancing, measures to improve hygiene and to limit population movements in and between countries. In many countries, the movement of people from urban to rural areas has actually reversed as many people want to flee urban congestion and contagion and given the collapse of livelihoods.

As the virus spreads to more countries in Africa, Asia and Latin America, some countries are replicating the practices of countries in the northern hemisphere, adopting social distancing approaches and limiting movement between cities and surrounding peri-urban and rural areas and territories. Since COVID-19 knows no borders, and given that it will become very difficult for people to move and mobility will slow down or become impossible in some places, there must be an integrated urban and rural approach in the COVID-19 response. In the southern hemisphere this has been much more critical as large populations of the urban and rural poor continue to move in order to maintain their livelihood strategies and access incomes and food for their households. Smallholder farmers, women traveling to markets and day-labourers constitute hundreds of millions of people for whom the social distancing and confinement in the crowded informal settlements in which they live is just not possible.

” The URL-GP can provide a **framework** to clearly address flows of people, goods, information and services when planning interventions to slow infection rates while addressing social protection and health services.

This integrated approach is what the guiding principles and framework for action of the URL-GP were designed for, to assist governments and their private sector and civil society partners with assessment, planning and policy development tools. In the context of the COVID-19 crises, the URL-GP therefore can be a useful tool for governments and other stakeholders.

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ENG

Strengthening urban-rural linkages to reduce spatial inequality and poverty by leveraging sustainable food systems actions: First UN-Habitat Assembly | Side Event Report

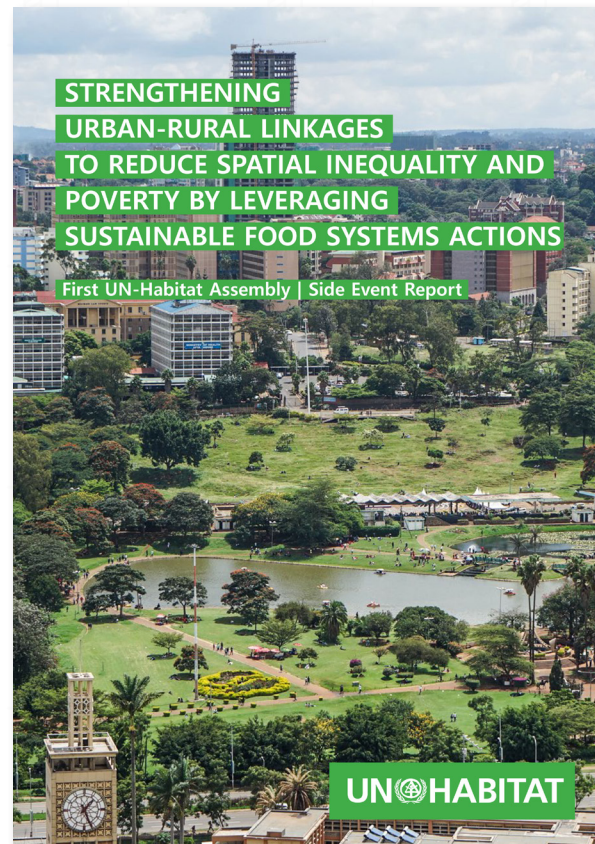
A side event as part of the first UN-Habitat Assembly (UNHA) was held

on 30 May, 2019 in Nairobi, Kenya, organized by Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO) and the UN-Habitat with supporting partners. The side event was held to underscore the importance of integrating urban and rural planning and development, helping urban-rural relations become more equal, more inclusive and balanced. The objectives for the side event were to:

- » Focus on improvement of urban-rural linkages (URL) as a key entry point for reducing spatial inequalities and alleviating both rural and urban poverty
- » Present initiatives and concrete efforts to strengthen URL in relation to global normative agendas such as the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) and the New Urban Agenda (NUA)
- » Showcase selected national and subnational experiences addressing inequality and poverty through integrated actions on sustainable food systems nutrition and other public services



UN-Habitat, 2019
23 pp., 210 x 297 mm
Available in: English



ENG

1st Edition: Urban Rural Linkages Newsletter

Urban and rural spaces are inextricable linked economically, socially and environmentally and cannot be adequately dealt with in isolation from one another. The spatial and functional interconnections of territories entail conceiving urban-periurban and rural as continuous space, in which processes, opportunities, and challenges are not constrained by urban,

rural or administrative boundaries.

Urban-rural interactions and linkages across space include not only flows of people, goods, capital and information but also between sectors and activities such as agriculture, services and manufacturing.

This urban-rural interaction is increasingly a focus of attention for national, regional and local governments, planners and development agencies.

UN-Habitat and its UN and development partner are developing tools to strengthen urban-rural linkages to alleviate poverty, reduce inequality, and increase the resilience, sustainability and prosperity of integrated urban-rural territories. These tools will be made available to national, regional and local governments, development partners and civil society.



UN-Habitat, Nov 2019
15 pp., 210 x 297 mm
Available in: English



I. What are Urban-Rural Linkages? Guiding Principles and Framework for Action (URL-GP)

Urban and rural spaces are inextricably linked economically, socially and environmentally and cannot be adequately dealt with in isolation from one another. The spatial and functional interconnections of territories entail conceiving urban-periurban and rural as continuous space, in which processes, opportunities, and challenges are not constrained by urban, rural or administrative boundaries. Urban-rural interactions and linkages across space include not only flows of people, goods, capital and information but also between sectors and activities such as agriculture, services and manufacturing. This urban-rural interaction is increasingly a focus of attention for national, regional and local governments, planners and development agencies.

There is also a general agreement that territorial approaches and people- and place-based development along the urban-rural continuum are critical in managing a comprehensive, interlinked and truly participatory approach to sustainable development. This approach is aligned with the localization and realization of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development and the New Urban Agenda (NUA).

To support these integrated territorial approaches, UN-Habitat started a process beginning in 2015 that culminated in 2019 with numerous stakeholders agreeing to ten Guiding Principles and eleven entry points in a Framework for Action to strengthening urban-linkages.

The Guiding Principles and Framework for Action build on a growing understanding of how urbanization is reshaping the world's urban and rural landscapes. In May 2019, after a participatory process, the publication [Urban-Rural Linkages: Guiding Principles and Framework for Action to Advance Integrated Territorial Development \(URL-GP\)](#) was launched by the UN-Habitat in Nairobi, Kenya.

The publication can be found in [Spanish](#), [French](#), [Portuguese](#), [Chinese](#) and [Arabic](#) on the Urban Policy Platform (<http://urbanpolicyplatform.org/>)

Urban-Rural Linkages: Training Manual for applying the Urban-Rural Linkages Guiding Principles

This Training manual contains six modules composed of interactive lectures and individual/group activities.

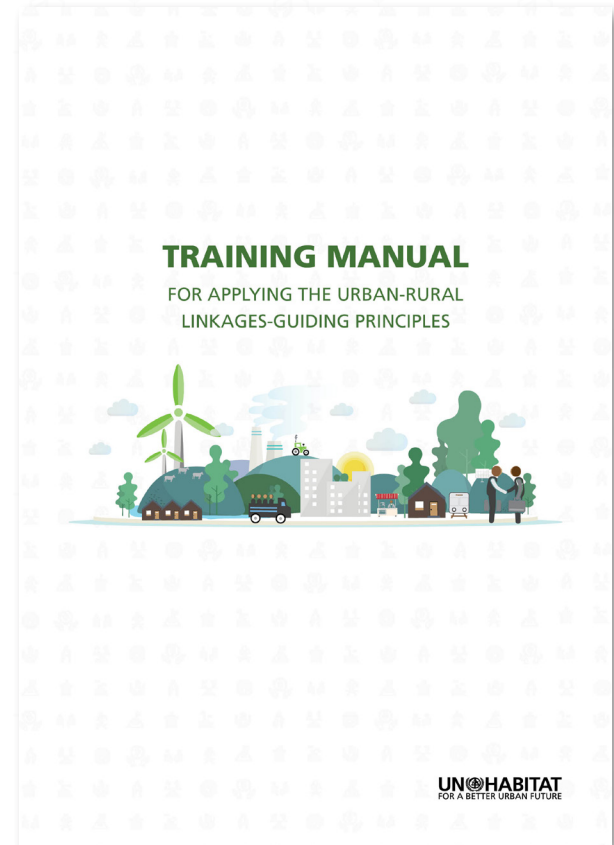
1. Introduction
2. Understanding the URL-GP
3. Who should apply the URL-GP
4. How to apply the URL-GP
5. Where to apply the URL-GP
6. What's next? How you can take the URL-GP forward!

In addition to the five core modules, the Training manual includes a Pre- and a Post-Training Manual-Quiz, in order to provide a rapid evaluation of the learning outcomes of the training.

The Appendix includes all templates required to fill out the assessments and the exercises.



UN-Habitat, 2019
120 pp., 210 x 297 mm
Available in: English



Urban-Rural Linkages: Guiding Principles - Framework for Action to Advance Integrated Territorial Development

The goal of these Guiding Principles is to inform pragmatic strategies and propose a Framework for Action to build an enabling environment for more inclusive and functional urban-rural linkages. The principles are flexible and can be applied by all levels of stakeholders at all scales.

While the principles are designed for universal application, there are distinct roles and actions appropriate for national or local governments, civil society, the private sector and international organizations.

In addition, they can be applied in varying national contexts; for example, where there is a concern about the rate of urbanization and rural transformation, or the degree of diversity in the population. The Guiding Principles are to help address the complexity of aligning different levels of governance (national, territorial and local) while recognizing unique local contexts and multiple possibilities for implementation.



Chinese



Arabic



French



English
page | 44



Spanish



Portuguese

UN-Habitat, 2019
HS Number: HS/028/19E
 62 pp., 210 x 297 mm

Leaving No Place Behind: Strengthening Urban-Rural Linkages in Africa Regional Awareness Workshop Integrating Urban-Rural Linkages in Policies and Strategies

The Regional Awareness Workshop “Integrating Urban-Rural Linkages in Policies and Strategies” took place on September 18-19, 2018 in Nairobi, Kenya within the United Nations Development Account project “Leaving No Place Behind: Strengthening Urban-Rural Linkages in Africa”.

It was hosted by UN-Habitat in partnership with the United Nations Economic Commission for Africa (UNECA) and in collaboration the United Nations Centre for Regional Development (UNCRD), the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO), and the International Fund for Agricultural Development (IFAD). The workshop brought together representatives from the four UNDA project countries, as well as national or subnational government officials from other countries in the region.



UN-Habitat & FAO, IFAD, UNCRD, UNECA, Sept 2018
12 pp., 210 x 297 mm
Available in: English



Leaving No Place Behind:
Strengthening Urban-Rural Linkages in Africa
Regional Awareness Workshop
Integrating Urban-Rural Linkages
in Policies and Strategies
in Nairobi, Kenya, 18-19 September 2018
Summary Report

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Compendium of Case Studies for the Implementation of the Guiding Principles of Urban-Rural Linkages and Framework for Action

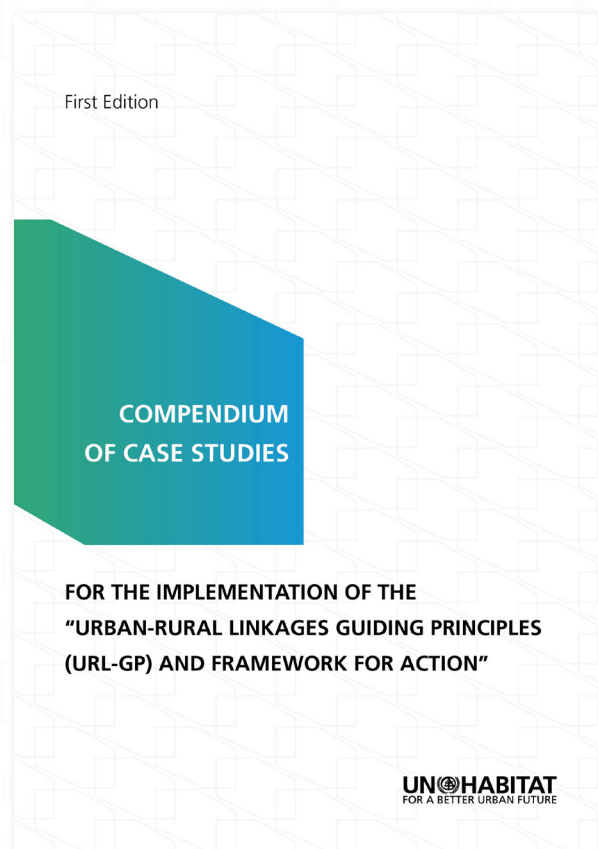
UN-Habitat and its UN and development partner are developing tools to strengthen urban-rural linkages to alleviate poverty, reduce inequality, and increase the resilience, sustainability and prosperity of integrated urban-rural territories. These tools will be made available to national, regional and local governments, development partners and civil society.

As countries, regions and cities test and apply the Guiding Principles and Framework for Action, it will be useful to compare methods, experiences and results. For this purpose, a call for further case studies including a template will be made available as part of the dissemination of the URL-GP.

It is hoped that this initial compendium of case studies will grow in the future with many more cases and all are invited to provide experiences and case studies to learn from the application of the URL-GP in sustainable development work.



UN-Habitat, March 2019
39 pp., 176 x 250 mm
Available in: English



ENG

Implementing the New Urban Agenda by Strengthening the Urban-Rural Linkages

This publication on Urban-Rural Linkages reaffirms that the discourse on urbanization must depart from the traditional and outdated dichotomy of urban and rural; in order for urban and rural areas to be sustainable they must develop in tandem, inequalities must be reduced and the development gap bridged.

Urban and rural spaces are inextricably linked economically, socially and environmentally and cannot be adequately dealt with in isolation from one another. Recognizing this urban-rural continuum also highlights how partnerships, collaboration and unity in action can yield dividends for all people, regardless of age, gender or whether they live in urban or rural areas.



UN-Habitat, March 2017

HS Number: HS/035/17E

90 pp., 210 x 297 mm

Available in: English



ENG

Habitat III Issue Paper No. 10 in 2015

Following adoption of the SDGs, UN-Habitat led a multi-UN agency preparation of Habitat III Issue Paper No. 10 in 2015, which laid the foundation for discussions at the Habitat III Conference in 2016, emphasizing the importance of integrated territorial development.



HABILAT III ISSUE PAPERS

10 – URBAN-RURAL LINKAGES

New York, 31 May 2015

(not edited version 2.0)



May 2015
9 pp., 210 x 297 mm
Available in: English

Regional Development Dialogue - Urban-Rural Linkages in Support of the New Urban Agenda

Urban and Rural spaces are inextricably linked economically, socially, and environmentally and cannot be adequately dealt with in isolation from one another. The need for consistent urban policies for urban to rural areas which involve local, regional, and national actors is important to understand and effectively address the complexities of people's livelihoods and the strategies they employ, which include mobility, migration, and the diversification of income sources and occupations.

Urban-rural linkages promote sustainable development and the role of trade in this process while, conversely, a lack of optimal rural-urban linkages leads to inefficiencies, poverty, and inequality which all inhibit growth. Strong linkages enhance sustainable development because they channel resources to where they have the largest net economic and social benefits.

This issue of **Regional Development Dialogue** (RDD) is a collaborative effort of the United Nations Human Settlements Programme (UN-Habitat) and the United Nations Centre for Regional Development (UNCRD).



UN-Habitat & UNCRD, 2014
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