

# CATALOGUE OF PUBLICATIONS

## POLICY AND LEGISLATION SECTION



2025



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49 Publications



UN-HABITAT

## Catalogue of Publications: Policy and Legislation Section

First published in Nairobi, 2018 by UN-Habitat

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United Nations Human Settlements Programme (UN-Habitat)

P. O. Box 30030, 00100 Nairobi GPO KENYA

Tel: 254-020-7623987 (Central Office)

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# **CATALOGUE OF PUBLICATIONS** | **2025**

POLICY AND LEGISLATION SECTION



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## ABOUT

# Catalogue of Publications

- » The [2025 PLGS Publications Catalogue](#) is a compilation of PLS normative tools and knowledge products to support governments at all levels and other stakeholders. The publications are organized by major thematic areas within PLGS: Urban Policy, Urban Legislation and Governance, Metropolitan Management, and Urban-Rural Linkages. For ease of navigation, each theme has its unique color code.
- » The catalogue also contains PLGS annual reports for [2020](#), [2021](#), [2022](#), [2023](#) and [2024](#).
- » Inside this catalogue, you can access [170+](#) publications released since 2005 to date.
- » 159+ are in English, 6 are in French, 26 Spanish, 4 Arabic, 2 Chinese, 1 Persian and 1 Portuguese.
- » Each thematic category begins with the oldest ([2005](#)) to the most recent publication.
- » Each publication has a summary (blurb), pages numbers, QR code and the year of publication. You can download your publications of interest by [scanning](#) the QR code.

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**ABOUT  
PLS**

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The (Urban) Policy and Legislation Section (**PLS**) is one of the five sections of the Urban Practices Branch of UN-Habitat. It plays a critical role in implementing the Agency's Strategic Plan, flagship programmes, the relevant 2030 development agenda and the New Urban Agenda as it serves as the UN-Habitat focal point and global solutions center for Urban Policy, Legislation and Governance. The Section in collaboration with other parts of the agency both at Headquarters and in the field, works to support governments and partners in knowledge and tools development, capacity building, policy dialogue as well as advisory services focused on:

- Coordinating the Agency's substantive, normative and operational work on Policy, Legislation and Governance;
- Developing, documenting and disseminating policy, legislation and governance norms, standards, tools, methodologies, regulatory frameworks, operating procedures and inspiring practices at all levels i.e. global, regional, national and sub-national;
- Designing tailored-made policy, legislation and governance solutions for cities, regions and metropolises, enhance the urban-rural continuum, with a view to reduce spatial inequality and poverty and also promote shared prosperity;
- Generating and maintaining knowledge and data (including Indexes and database) on Urban Policy, Legislation and Governance;
- Leading the testing/piloting of norms, standards, tools, methodologies, regulatory frameworks, through initiatives, programmes and projects on policy, legislation and governance;
- Providing technical assistance, quality assurance/control, policy advice and services on norms, standards, tools, methodologies and regulatory frameworks to internal and external partners including on design, monitoring, implementation and evaluation of operational programmes/projects with respect to policy, legislation and governance;
- Coordinating and facilitating urban forums;
- Coordinating capacity development of staff (including at Headquarters, Branches, Multi countries and country offices), UN-Habitat partners and Member States on norms, standards, tools, methodologies, regulatory frameworks pertaining to Urban Policy, Legislation and Governance;
- Creating and maintaining platforms, networks and community of practices for peer-to-peer learning.

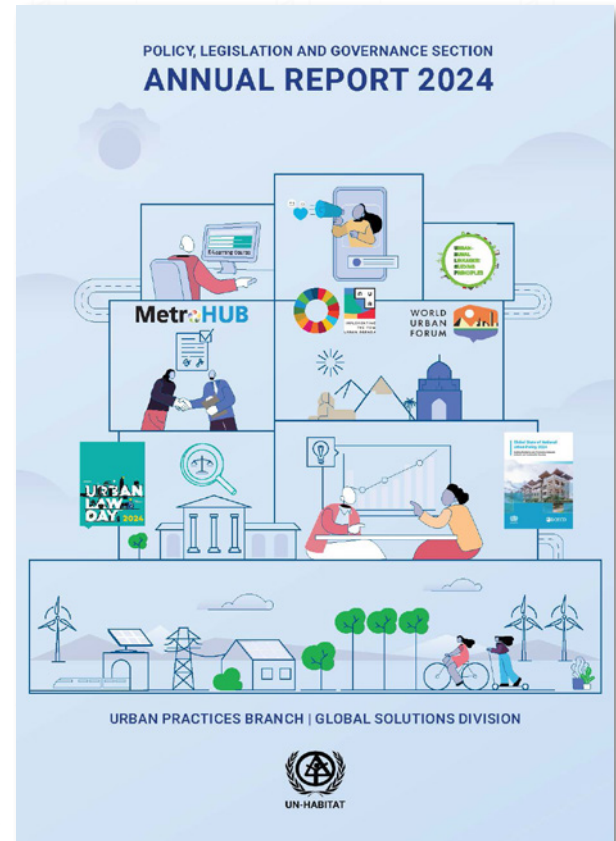
## PLGS 2024 Annual Report

Building upon a successful 2023, the 2024 Annual Report of the Policy, Legislation and Governance Section (PLGS) showcases continued progress towards achieving sustainable urban development. Through a range of impactful activities, PLGS strengthened its collaboration with donors, development partners, and beneficiary countries, advancing UN-Habitat work on policy, legislation, governance, metropolitan management, and urban-rural linkages.

This report highlights key achievements, financial performance, and outlines ambitious plans for 2025 to further contribute to the Sustainable Development Goals and the New Urban Agenda.



UN-Habitat, 2025  
91 pp.,  
Available in: English



## PLGS 2023 Annual Report

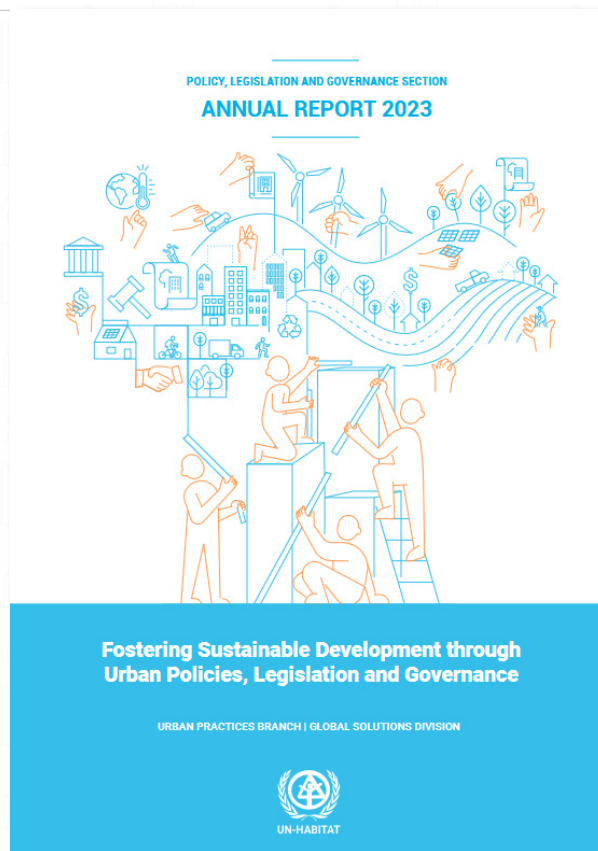
The Annual Report 2023 of the Policy, Legislation and Governance Section of UN-Habitat showcases the work done in the past year to work towards and support the achievement of the main goal of sustainable urban development. Much has been achieved by PLGS: more than 44 activities in over 37 countries globally, that consolidated collaboration with donors, development partners and beneficiary countries along the themes of policy, legislation and governance, metropolitan management, and urban-rural linkages.

Specifically, the report presents the progress of the PLGS with the UN-Habitat strategic context; it contains an outline of achievements under the various focus areas, a review of the financial portfolio, and features the planned outcomes the section has for 2024. The report also demonstrates how the section contributed to global frameworks such as the Sustainable Development Goals and the New Urban Agenda.

The report is of benefit to all stakeholders working towards sustainable urban development and will galvanize all to commit their support to UN-Habitat and to each other to realize actionable outcomes. Access the [Interactive version](#).



UN-Habitat, 2024  
**HS Number:** HS/082/16E  
86 pp.,  
Available in: English



## PLGS 2022 Annual Report

This is the third edition of UN-Habitat's Policy, Legislation and Governance Section Annual Report. The report demonstrates the Section's position within UN-Habitat's strategic context, and also links this area of work to the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) and the New Urban Agenda. The report provides insights into our initiatives and collaborative efforts with all our partners, and presents progress made and results achieved in 2022. It presents these achievements along four focus areas: Country Activities (projects); Normative tools and knowledge products; Capacity development and; Advocacy.

The PLGS annual reporting has streamlined and made the section's work more accessible, providing a coordinated approach to responding to requests for inputs both internally and externally. The 2020 and 2021 reports have demonstrated a clear connection of the section's projects and programmes to the overall Organization mandate of promoting sustainable urban development. The 2022 report advances this by doing three things: highlights the progress made and results achieved; reviews the trends; and points out connecting milestones since 2020 when the reporting process began.

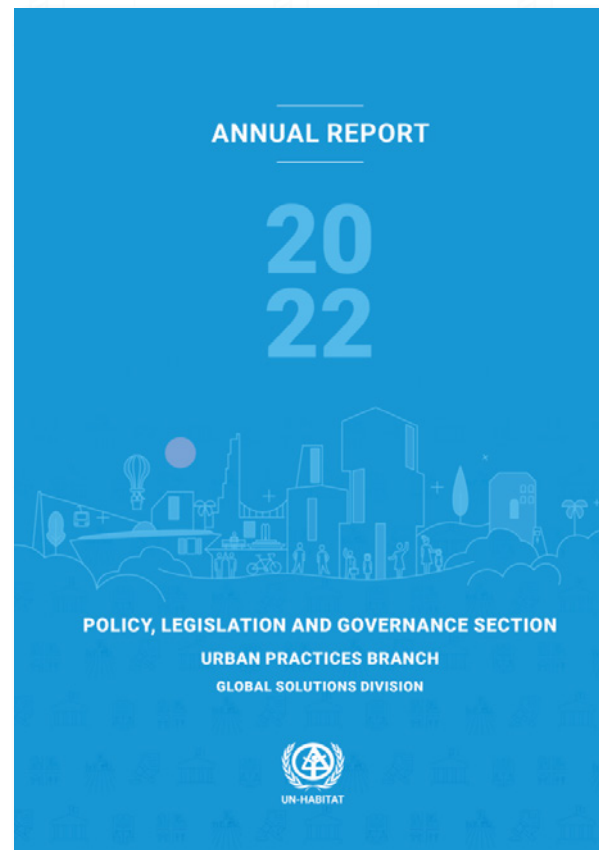


UN-Habitat, 2020

**HS Number:** HS/009/21E

71 pp., 210 x 297 mm

Available in: English



EN

## PLGS 2021 Annual Report

This is the second Policy, Legislation and Governance Section (PLGS) Annual report on the implementation of the Strategic Plan 2020-2025, reporting progress and achievements for the year 2021. This report demonstrates the Section's catalytic role in implementing initiatives to contribute to UN-Habitat's mandate as well as the Sustainable Development Goals and the New Urban Agenda.

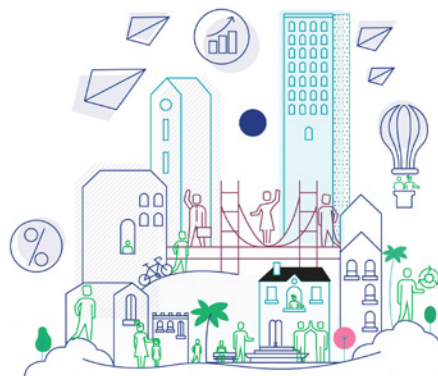
It shows that the Section has been advancing many important areas of work, using effective and innovative approaches, and working progressively with strategic partners to deliver technical and operational support to national and subnational partner authorities in 2021.

Amid another challenging year due to the COVID-19 pandemic, the reporting period was result-oriented, with various milestones achieved. The report demonstrates the continued adaptive capabilities and resilience of the Section's personnel as well as the beneficiary national and subnational governments and their cities and communities.



UN-Habitat, 2021  
**HS Number:** HS/010/22E  
 65 pp., 210 x 297 mm  
 Available in: English

## ANNUAL REPORT 2021



**POLICY, LEGISLATION AND GOVERNANCE SECTION**  
**URBAN PRACTICES BRANCH**  
**GLOBAL SOLUTIONS DIVISION**

**UN HABITAT**  
 FOR A BETTER URBAN FUTURE

EN

## PLGS 2020 Annual Report

This is the first Annual Report of UN-Habitat's Policy, Legislation and Governance Section. It highlights the section's implementation of the Strategic Plan 2020-2023 for 2020 and outlines the contributions and results realized across various key programmes and projects at the local, national, regional and global levels between November 2019 and the end of 2020.

The period reviewed not only encompassed a major organizational restructuring by UN-Habitat in January 2020, but it also featured one of the most serious global health crises in living memory. COVID-19 raised challenges few people had ever encountered before.

Nevertheless, it was a productive and dynamic period for the Policy, Legislation and Governance Section and this report bears witness to the strength, courage, energy, resourcefulness and resilience of the people in the section's team as well as communities they serve.



UN-Habitat, 2020

**HS Number:** HS/009/21E

71 pp., 210 x 297 mm

Available in: English



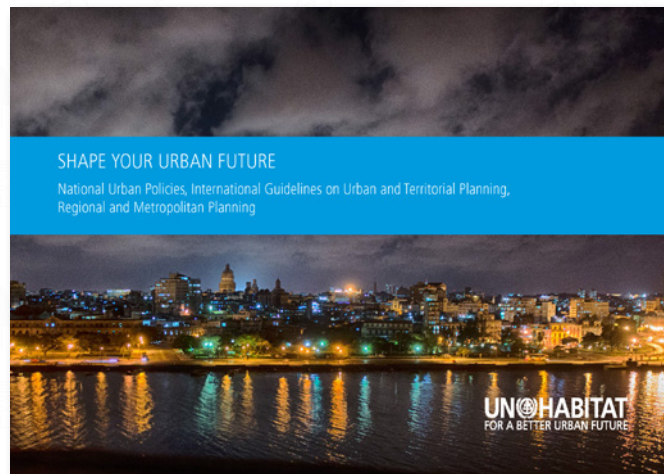
EN

## Shape your Urban Future National Urban Policies, International Guidelines on Urban and Territorial Planning

The United Nations Human Settlement Programme (UN-Habitat) is the United Nations programme working towards a better urban future.

For more than 30 years, UN-Habitat has been leading research, policies and projects on urban settlements throughout the world. The best practices of urban planning are now serving as examples for the next decades to come – knowing that in 2050, 7 out of 10 people in the world are expected to live in urban areas.

In order to support national governments, regional and city authorities to work towards economically productive, socially inclusive and environmentally sustainable human settlements, UN-Habitat provides a set of tested approaches, guidelines and tools – improving the lives of millions of people.



ENG



UN-Habitat, 2017  
17 pp, 210 x 148 mm  
Available in: English





**NATIONAL URBAN POLICY**

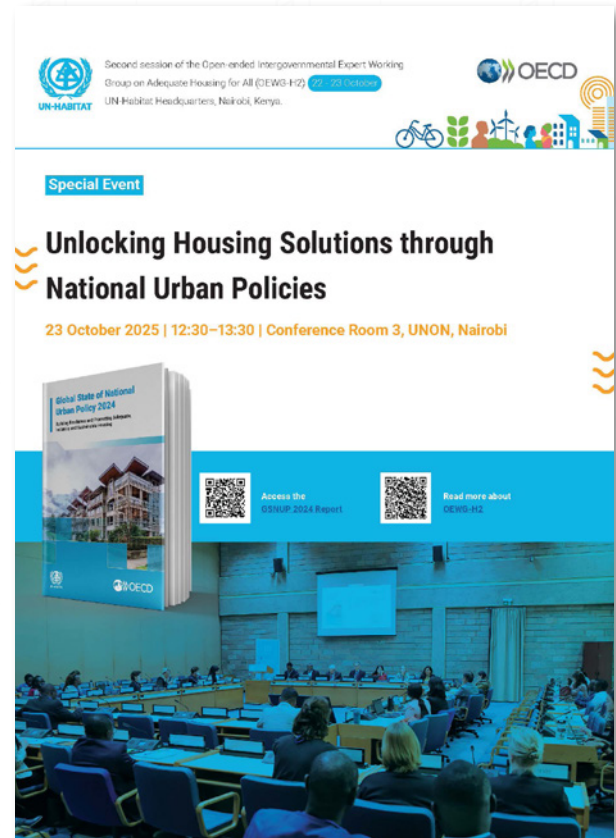
**NUP**

## Special Event (OEWG-H2): Unlocking Housing Solutions through National Urban Policies

Held alongside the second session of the Open-ended Intergovernmental Expert Working Group on Adequate Housing for All (OEWG-H2), the special event “Unlocking Housing Solutions through National Urban Policies” brought together more than one hundred participants, both onsite and online. Organized by the Policy, Legislation and Governance Section (PLGS) of UN-Habitat, the session provided a platform to explore how National Urban Policies (NUPs) can be used to enhance access to adequate housing and promote more equitable and resilient urban development. The discussion drew on findings from the Global State of National Urban Policy Report 2024 (GSNUP3), co-authored by UN-Habitat and the OECD, which examines NUP implementation in seventy eight countries and their role in promoting affordable, adequate, and sustainable housing. The session also featured reflections from Finland, Kenya, Morocco, and Paraguay, highlighting practical experiences at country level in aligning housing and urban policy objectives.



UN-Habitat 2025  
6 pp  
Available in: English



ENG

## 2023-2024 ANNUAL REPORT National Urban Policy Programme, Phase Two: 'Scaling up People-Centered Smart Cities through National Urban Policies'

UN-Habitat's National Urban Policy Programme (NUPP) continues to play a pivotal role in advancing inclusive, resilient, and sustainable urban development globally through national and subnational urban policies. This 2024 edition of the Korea-funded National Urban Policy Programme (K-NUPP) report presents progress made during year two of the second phase of the programme, with a focus on activities undertaken and results achieved in 2023/2024, while providing a forward-looking view of planned activities for 2025.

The report reflects the strong commitment of UN-Habitat, through its Policy, Legislation and Governance Section, and the Government of the Republic of Korea, through the Ministry of Land, Infrastructure and Transport (MOLIT), to support the eight beneficiary countries-- Azerbaijan, Cambodia, Egypt, Mozambique, Paraguay, the Islamic Republic of Iran, Myanmar, and Niger State (Nigeria)-- to advance their urban policies.



UN-Habitat, MOLIT 2025  
90 pp  
Available in: English

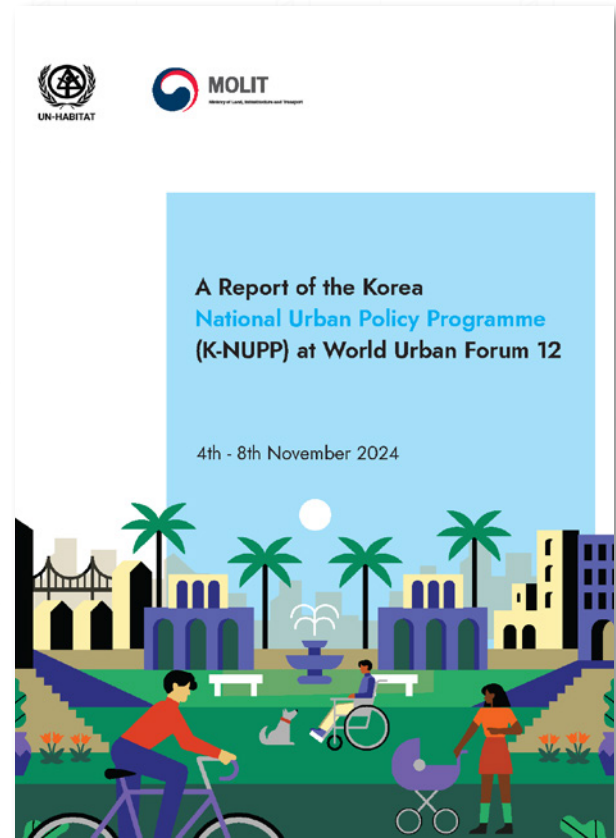


## A Report of the Korea National Urban Policy Programme (K-NUPP) at World Urban Forum 12

This report summarizes a pivotal knowledge-sharing event, focused on Korea National Urban Policy Programme and its impact on people-centered smart cities, held in Cairo, Egypt, during the twelfth session of the World Urban Forum (WUF12). This event was a key activity within the Korea National Urban Policy Programme (K-NUPP), highlighting the crucial intersection of people-centered smart cities and their effective integration into National Urban Policies (NUPs). This focus aligns perfectly with the broader goals of the Korea National Urban Policy Programme in fostering sustainable urban development.



UN-Habitat, MOLIT 2025  
56 pp  
Available in: English



ENG

## Global State of National Urban Policy 2024 Building Resilience and Promoting Adequate, Inclusive and Sustainable Housing

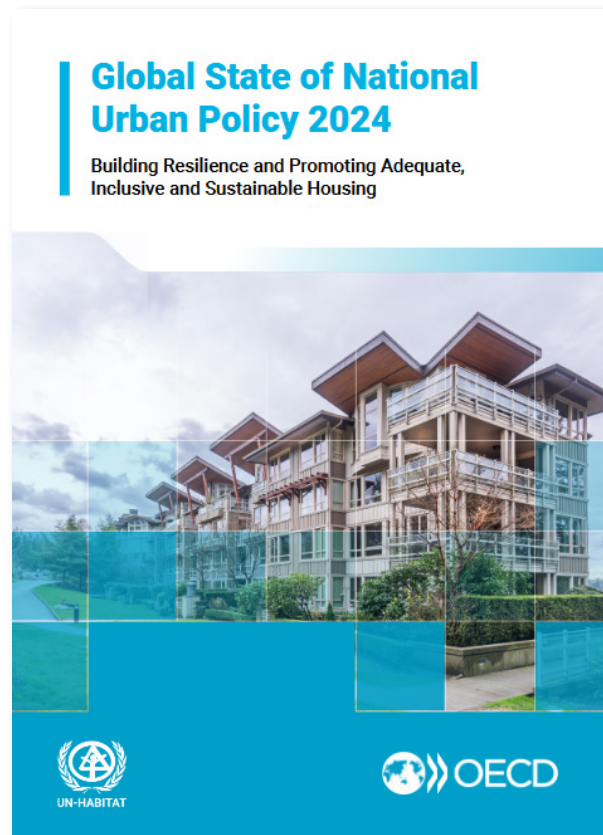
A robust national urban policy (NUP) facilitates achieving sustainable urban development as a shared responsibility across levels of government and amongst all actors by setting a shared vision, providing adequate coordination mechanisms, and guiding investments to address national and subnational development priorities.

From the analysis of 78 countries across the globe, this edition shows that NUP is increasingly becoming a critical instrument to manage urban challenges and to advance sustainable urbanization, with more than 80% of countries having a NUP in place. The report reviews how countries' NUPs are fostering adequate, inclusive and sustainable housing. The report also explores how countries are using NUP to enhance their resilience to current and emerging shocks.

The report has been co-developed by UN-Habitat and the OECD as a key outcome of the National Urban Policy Programme.



UN-Habitat, OECD 2024  
150 pp  
Available in: English



## Implementing National Urban Policy Through Demonstration Projects

Globally, urbanization has increased significantly, with the world's urban population expected to reach 68.5% by 2045. Although urbanization brings economic opportunities and improved living conditions, if not well managed, it can also present urban and social challenges such as slums, poverty, and environmental degradation.

While many countries around the world have formulated National Urban Policy (NUP) to manage their urbanization, associated implementation challenges such as institutional capacity and inadequate financial resources continue to delay the gains of NUP. Building on the experiences and achievements accumulated over the years on enhancing the capacity of national and sub-national governments to develop, implement, monitor, and evaluate national urban policies, this toolkit has been prepared to assist governments, policymakers, and stakeholders in accelerating the implementation of NUPs through demonstration projects (innovative and cost-effective interventions).

This toolkit offers a range of tools and resources to support the government (national and subnational), policymakers, and all stakeholders in the urban development sector in the implementation of NUP through demonstration projects.



UN-Habitat, 2024  
47 pp  
Available in: English



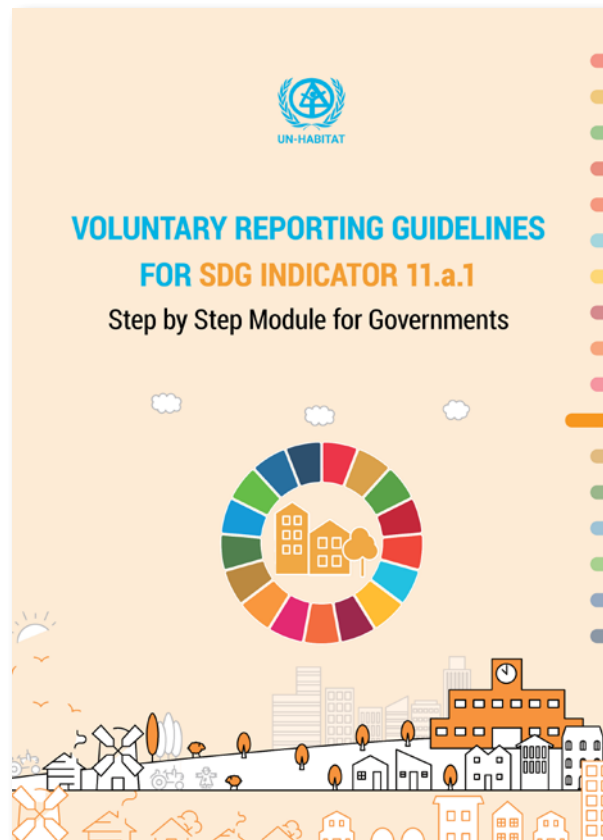
ENG

## Voluntary Reporting Guidelines for SDG Indicator 11.a.1: Step by Step Module for Governments

The important role of urban policies for sustainable development has in the recent past gained prominence than ever before. The adoption of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development in 2015 and the New Urban Agenda (NUA) in 2016 have provided a strong rationale for countries to develop, implement and/or review their National Urban Policy frameworks. The NUA places explicit emphasis on National Urban Policy as one of its five pillars of implementation. Similarly, in 2019, National Urban Policy was adopted as the main tool to monitor SDG 11, through Indicator 11.a.1. These efforts show the crucial role governments can play and call for measures to enhance the ability of such governments to develop, implement and monitor such over-arching policies.



UN-Habitat, 2024  
28 pp  
Available in: English

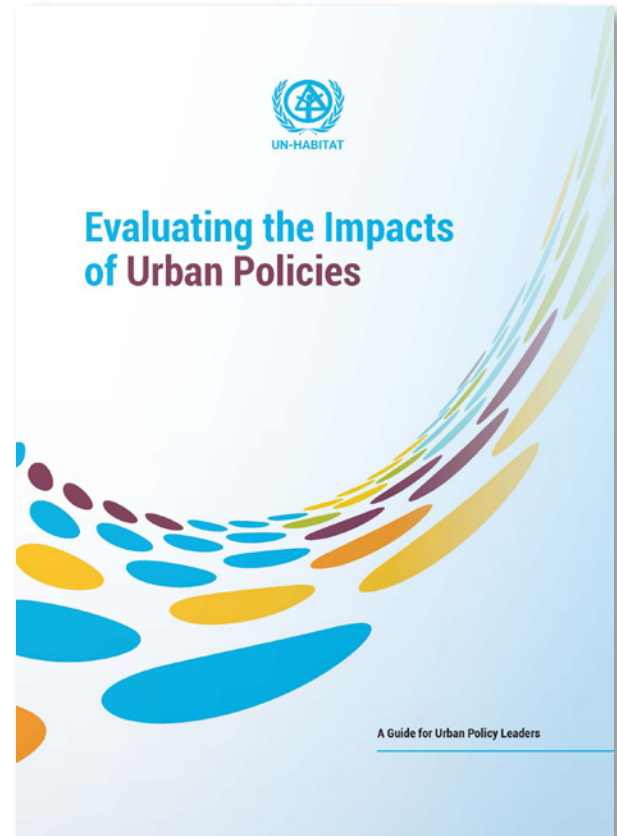


## Evaluating the Impacts of Urban Policies: A Guide for Urban Policy Leaders

More people live in cities than ever before. The urban population more than doubled from 1.5 billion in 1975 to 3.5 billion in 2015 and is estimated to reach more than 50% by 2050.<sup>1</sup> This affirms the role of cities in sustainable development and the importance of National Urban Policies in as coordinating frameworks, to manage the urbanization process in an inclusive, resilient, and sustainable way. National governments are encouraged to develop and implement New Generation Urban Policies (NUPs), which are considered vital tools to support implementation of the New Urban Agenda. These policies should be evidence based, set realistic policy expectations, and guide effective spending of public resources. This can only be achieved when countries have a thorough understanding of the urban policy making process.



UN-Habitat, 2024  
47 pp  
Available in: English



ENG

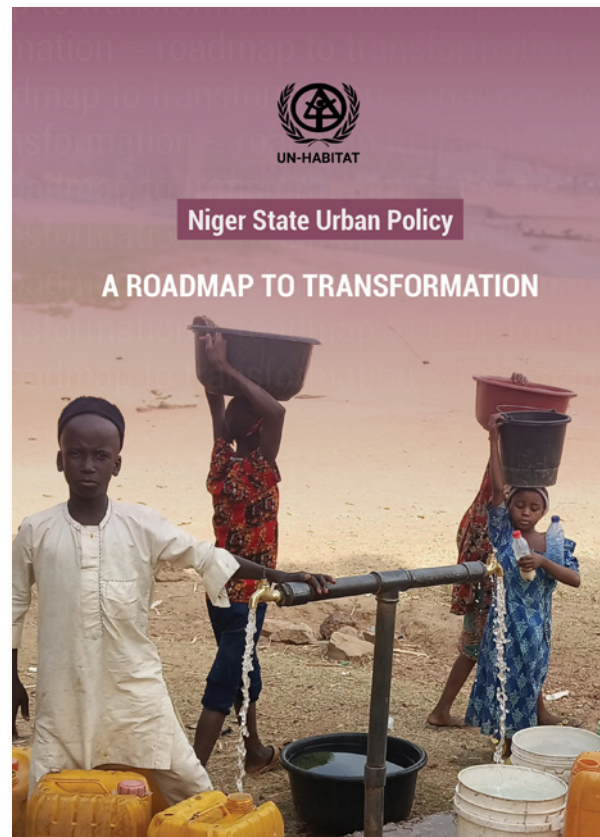
## Niger State Urban Policy: A Roadmap to Transformation

As part of the commitment of the Niger State Government (Nigeria) in creating compact, connected, socially inclusive and self-sustaining towns and cities in the State, the State Government has developed her Urban Development Policy with technical assistance from UN-Habitat. The overall goal of the Niger State Urban Policy is to achieve more transparent, equitable, productive, and resilient cities in Niger State, thereby positioning the cities to attain their potentials as engines of economic prosperity and development.

The State Urban Policy (SUP) was adopted in 2021 by the Niger State Executive Council, as a framework to guide sustainable urban development in Niger State. This important milestone ushered in the next phase of the SUP: Implementation. The State then carefully selected four demonstration projects to be implemented as part of longer-term efforts to achieve the objectives of the SUP.



UN-Habitat, 2024  
17 pp  
Available in: English



ENG

## Multi-level Urban Forums: A Guide

Urban Forums are critical and inclusive platforms to domesticate and localize global agendas and to advance evidence-based policymaking and review, as well as communicating policy outcomes and progress. They provide a valuable policy feedback loop. The main objective of the Multi-level Urban Forums Guide is to strengthen the role of multi-level an Forums to become platforms for urban policy dialogue, stakeholder engagement, resource mobilization and other concerted actions towards sustainable urban development.

The urban forums can provide an opportunity for UN-Habitat to strategically support countries by creating synergies at subnational, national, sub regional and regional levels to optimize the benefits of rapid urbanization and overcome its challenges. Additionally, these guidelines for structuring urban forums will continually be refined to ensure inclusivity and co-creation, foster adequate implementation and urban policy engagement at all relevant levels.



UN-Habitat, 2024  
54 pp  
Available in: English



ENG

## 2022-2023 ANNUAL REPORT National Urban Policy Programme, Phase Two: 'Scaling up People-Centered Smart Cities through National Urban Policies'

The National Urban Policy Programme (NUPP) remains a central tool towards promotion and realisation of an inclusive, resilient, and sustainable urban development. The Korea-funded National Urban Policy Programme (K-NUPP) 2022-2023 report reviews the first year of implementation in the second phase of the programme. The report articulates the commitment of UN-Habitat through the Policy, Legislation and Governance Section, in collaboration with the government of the Republic of Korea through the Ministry of Land, Infrastructure and Transport (MOLIT) to support phase 2 implementation in Azerbaijan, Cambodia, Egypt, Mozambique, Paraguay, I.R. Iran, Myanmar, and Niger State (Nigeria).

With reference to the programme objectives, the report details progress made, and results achieved in 2022-2023, innovative approaches applied, challenges faced, and projected activities for 2024 for each of the participating countries. It further outlines the contribution made by K-NUPP to the Sustainable Development Goals and the New Urban Agenda through National Urban Policies.



UN-Habitat & Ministry of Land, Infrastructure and Transport Republic of Korea, 2024  
90 pp  
Available in: English



## Integrating Sustainable Food Systems in National and Sub-National Urban Policies (NUP and SNUP)

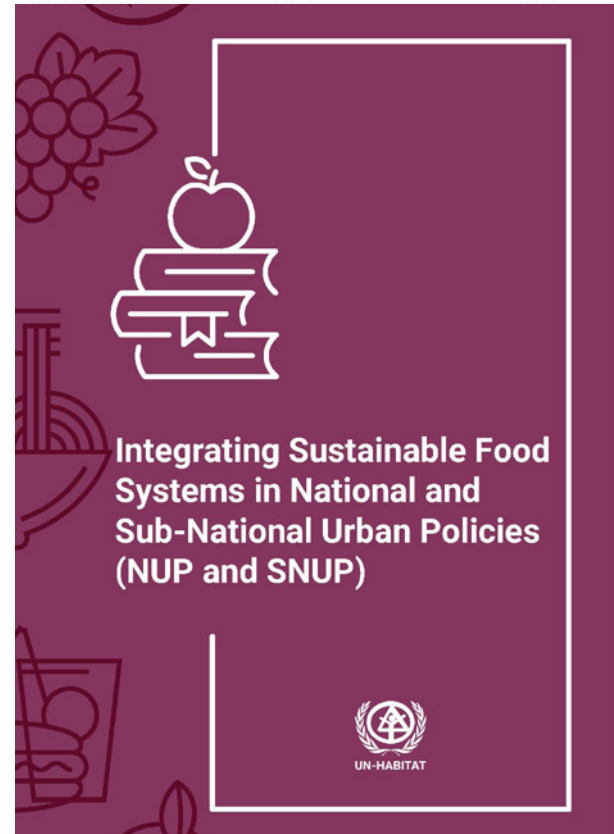
Urbanization and population growth are increasingly putting pressure on the global food system as food production and distribution are adversely affected by environmental degradation, climate change and extreme weather conditions. The most effective way in which governments can manage these pressures is to formulate a national urban policy that addresses the issues headon. UN-Habitat has developed International Guidelines on Urban and Territorial Planning (IG-UTP), which constitute a global framework for improving policies, plans and designs for cities and territories.

A major focus of the guidelines is to improve food security and nutrition. This guide can be used by decision-makers and stakeholders to design food-sensitive urban policies. It is also a tool for policymakers throughout the national urban policy process, including implementation, monitoring and evaluation.

Food systems and nutrition, among other cross-cutting themes, simply cannot be left out of an overall urban policy. Ensuring this issue is addressed comprehensively is not only essential for the survival of millions of people, but will mean the success or failure of the urban policy as a whole.



UN-Habitat, 2023  
79 pp  
Available in: English



ENG

## Mainstreaming Migration and Displacement into Urban Policy: A Guide

Migration and urbanization are increasingly two sides of the same coin: migration is in many countries a primary driver of urban growth, while cities in turn are serving as magnets for this movement. The connection between these processes is therefore central to the well-being of refugees, migrants and IDPs and the cities hosting them. With this in mind, this Guide has been developed to support national, sub-national and local governments in the management of migration and displacement in urban areas.

Besides outlining the basic policy processes involved in developing or revising urban policies that adequately address the realities of migration and displacement, it also includes a 10-step pathway of recommendations and actions to achieve a more holistic, integrated and effective policy response. Beginning with data collection and planning, then inclusive services and integration, the publication goes on to outline how different levels of government can work together and with partners more effectively, with the active participation of migrant and displaced populations themselves. It also examines how to achieve more funding and resources to deliver this response, particularly at the local levels where these are most needed.

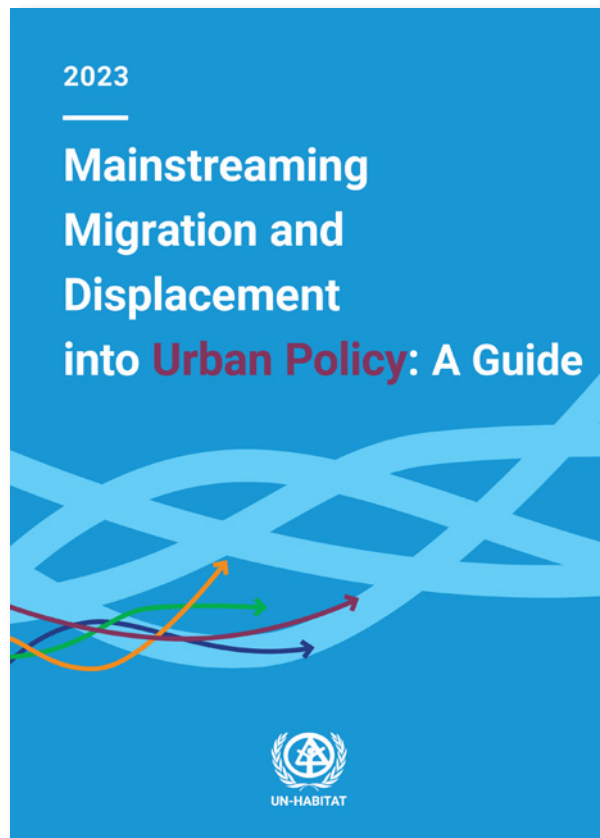


UN-Habitat, 2023

**HS Number:** HS/056/23E

155 pp

Available in: English



## Korea National Urban Policy Programme at World Urban Forum 11 Report

The National Urban Policy Programme (NUPP) remains a pivotal tool towards promotion and achievement of transformative, inclusive, green, productive and resilient urban development. Since 2016, NUP has achieved this through shared responsibility and deliberate consultation between UN-Habitat and respective countries globally. This joint initiative aims at contributing to the successful implementation of the New Urban Agenda (NUA) to achieve sustainable and prosperous human settlements for all. In the wake of COVID-19, NUPP's role in supporting countries with tools and knowledge to formulate urban policies to shape more resilient cities cannot be overemphasized. The 11<sup>th</sup> World Urban Forum (WUF 11) was organized and convened by UN-Habitat, and hosted in the City of Katowice, Poland between 25<sup>th</sup> to 30<sup>th</sup> June, 2022. The WUF is an international gathering for exchanging views on sustainable urbanization and its ramifications done biennially. This report showcases the activities that NUPP conducted at WUF including Knowledge Exchange, Celebration Event, and a Networking Event.

The main objective was to focus on sharing the results and achievements of National Urban Policies with Smart City Strategies in three pilot countries - I.R. Iran, Myanmar, Niger State in Nigeria and launch of the Phase 2 in five countries.



UN-Habitat, 2023

**HS Number:** HS/056/23E

155 pp

Available in: English



### Korea National Urban Policy Programme at World Urban Forum 11 Report

25<sup>TH</sup> - 30<sup>TH</sup> JUNE 2022



ENG

## Evaluation Report on National Urban Policy Programme: Developing National Urban Policies and Smart City Strategies in three selected countries: I.R Iran, Myanmar and Nigeria (2023/03)

This Evaluation Report presents an assessment of the Korea-funded project titled "National Urban Policy Programme: Developing NUPs and Smart City Strategies" carried out between 2017 and 2022. This pilot phase of the NUPP was implemented in three countries: Islamic Republic of Iran, Myanmar and Niger State, Nigeria. The main target audience for the evaluation report includes the donor (Ministry of Land, Infrastructure and Transport of the Republic of Korea), the three beneficiary countries, UN-Habitat and other partners. The report also serves as a key reference point of information for other governments, policymakers and urban professionals among other urban development stakeholders.

The report provides an in-depth analysis of the implementation process, comparing the expected and actual goals, and noting the gaps for the three countries individually and for the overall programme. It also expounds on challenges encountered, lessons learned, and suggests mitigation strategies to improve future NUP or related projects. This evaluation was carried out by the team of researchers from the Centre for Urban Research at Royal Melbourne Institute of Technology (RMIT) from Australia, with the support of UN-Habitat.

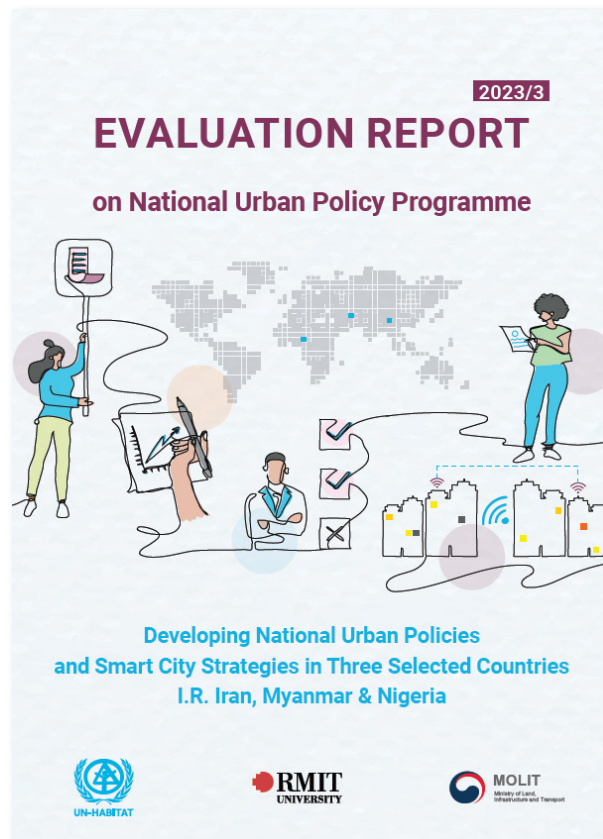


UN-Habitat, RMIT & Ministry of Land, Infrastructure and Transport Republic of Korea, 2023

**HS Number:** HS/042/23

85 pp

Available in: English



## 2017-2022 Korea National Urban Policy Programme Final Report I.R. Iran – Myanmar – Nigeria

The National Urban Policy Programme (NUPP) remains a pivotal tool towards promotion and achievement of transformative, inclusive, green, productive and resilient urban development. Since 2016, NUP has done this through shared responsibility and deliberate consultation between UN-Habitat and respective countries globally. This joint initiative aims at contributing to the successful implementation of the New Urban Agenda (NUA) to achieve sustainable and prosperous human settlements for all as NUP supports countries with tools and knowledge to undertake the NUP process. The aim of this initiative is to attain Sustainable Development Goals (SDG) 11- Sustainable Cities and Communities which by extension enable attainment of the other 16 SDGs.

The Korea NUPP 2017-2022 final report is the final edition of the Korea NUP Programme implementation report series since its launch in 2017 and it builds on the three earlier editions thus making it a valuable, informative tool of reference for policy makers and urban professionals among other stakeholders.



UN-Habitat & Ministry of Land, Infrastructure and Transport Republic of Korea, 2022

**HS Number:** HS/030/23E

198 pp

Available in: English



ENG

## National Urban Policy Programme 2020 Annual Report

The National Urban Policy Programme (NUPP) remains a pivotal tool towards the promotion and achievement of transformative, inclusive, green, productive, and resilient urban development. Over the last six years, NUP has done this through shared responsibility and deliberate consultation between UN-Habitat and respective countries globally. This joint initiative aims at contributing to the successful implementation of the New Urban Agenda (NUA) to achieve sustainable and prosperous human settlements for all as NUP supports countries with the tools and knowledge to undertake the NUP process. The aim of this initiative is to attain Sustainable Development Goals (SDG) 11- Sustainable Cities and Communities which by extension enable the attainment of the other 16 SDGs.

The 2020 Korea NUP Programme report articulates the commitment of UN-Habitat, in collaboration with the government of the Republic of Korea to support the people of I.R. Iran, Myanmar, and Niger State in Nigeria to realize respective sustainable urban development agenda. As the third edition, the report builds on the second edition (2018-2019) hence a focal reference point of information for policymakers and urban professionals among other key stakeholders as it points out key milestones made in 2020 in the three pilot countries towards implementation of NUP and smart cities.



UN-Habitat & Ministry of Land, Infrastructure and Transport Republic of Korea, 2022

**HS Number:** HS/027/23E

79 pp

Available in: English



## National Urban Policy Programme 2018-2019 Annual Report

The National Urban Policy Programme (NUPP) is an instrumental tool towards promoting and achieving transformative, inclusive, green, productive, and resilient urban development. The NUP is achieved through deliberate and shared responsibility between UN-Habitat and respective countries across the globe. In view of the externalities and challenges facing urban cities, NUP comes in handy to address the challenges with urgency and relevance in line with the New Urban Agenda (NUA) as it supports countries undertaking NUP process with tools and knowledge. This initiative is geared towards achieving Sustainable Development Goal (SDG) 11: Make cities and human settlements inclusive, safe, resilient and sustainable, which subsequently hastens the achievement of other SDGs.

This report reviews NUP Programme for three countries; I.R. Iran, Myanmar and Niger State in Nigeria. Building on the first edition of the NUPP launched in 2017, the second edition report is a critical reference point for policy makers and urban professionals as it shows progress of the implementation of NUPP and smart cities in the pilot phase for the three countries. The Republic of Korea committed to support the development of NUP financially and technically in the I.R. Iran, Myanmar, and Niger State in Nigeria.

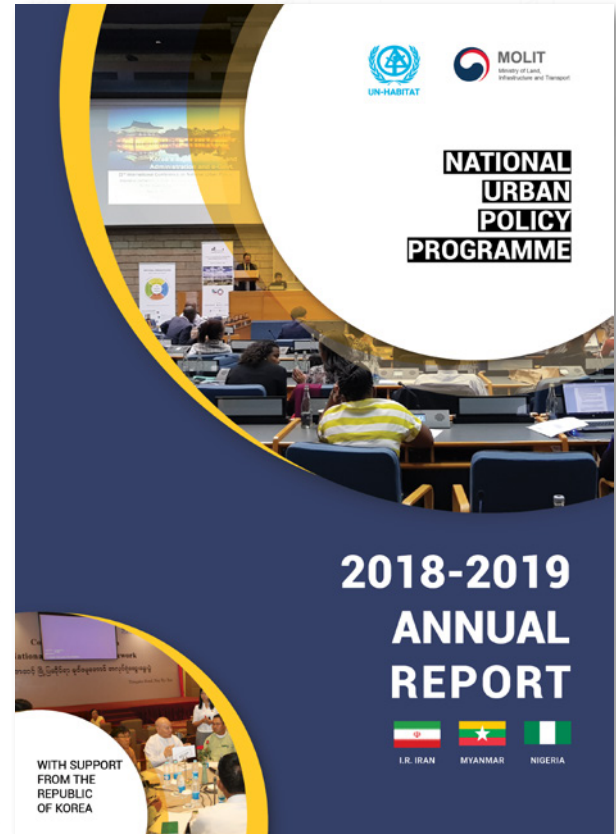


UN-Habitat & Ministry of Land, Infrastructure and Transport Republic of Korea, 2022

**HS Number:** HS/029/23E

44 pp

Available in: English

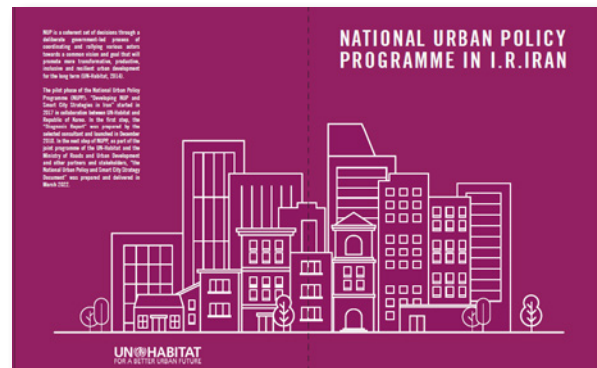


ENG

## I.R Iran National Urban Policy & Smart City Strategy Issue paper

NUP is a coherent set of decisions through a deliberate government-led process of coordinating and rallying various actors towards a common vision and goal that will promote more transformative, productive, inclusive and resilient urban development for the long term (UN-Habitat, 2014).

The pilot phase of the National Urban Policy Programme (NUPP): “Developing NUP and Smart City Strategies in Iran” started in 2017 in collaboration between UN-Habitat and Republic of Korea. In the first step, the “Diagnosis Report” was prepared by the selected consultant and launched in December 2018. In the next step of NUPP, as part of the joint programme of the UN-Habitat and the Ministry of Roads and Urban Development and other partners and stakeholders, “the National Urban Policy and Smart City Strategy Document” was prepared and delivered in March 2022



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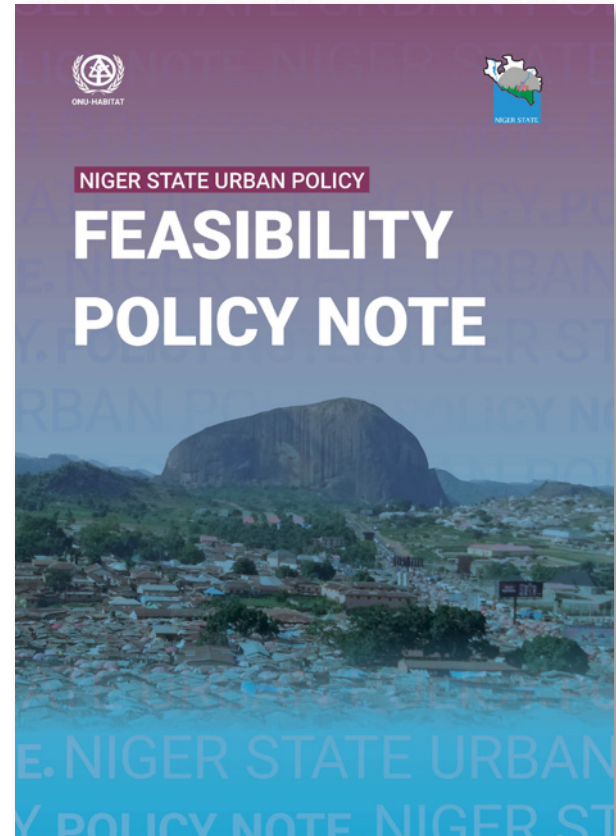
UN-Habitat, 2022  
20 pp  
Available in: English

## Niger State Urban Policy: Feasibility Policy Note

With rapid population growth, urban expansion, and uncoordinated urban development, the need for a clear, harmonized urban vision has never been more urgent. This Feasibility Policy Note presents an evidence-based foundation for the formulation of the Niger State Urban Policy and also highlights sectoral opportunities to accelerate sustainable urbanization in Niger State.



UN-Habitat, 2022  
46 pp  
Available in: English



ENG

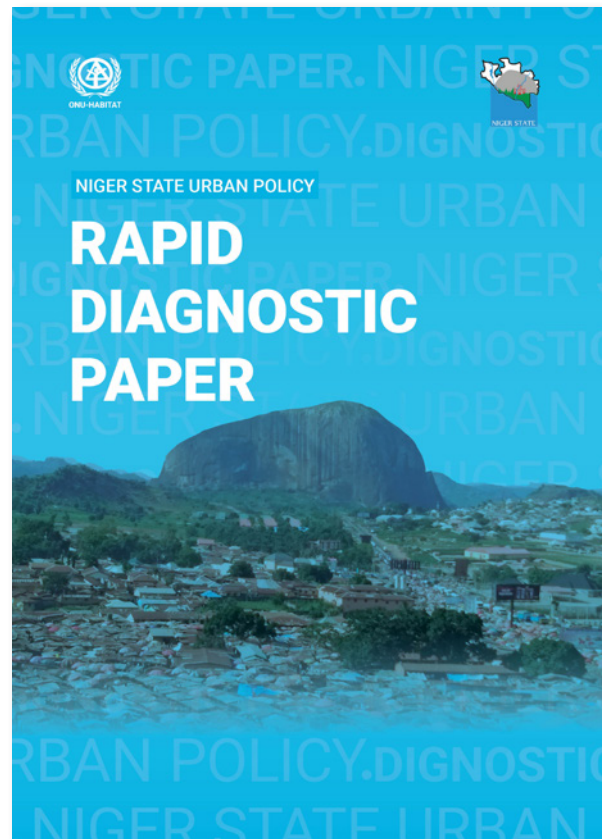
## Niger State Urban Policy: Rapid Diagnostic Paper

In a time of accelerating urbanization, this diagnostic paper examines critical dimensions of urbanization in Niger State. Drawing on extensive demographic, legislative, infrastructural, and socio-economic research, the report uncovers the core developmental issues facing the state, some of which include rapid and uncoordinated urban growth, deficient infrastructure and service delivery, weak governance structures, poor land management systems, proliferation of informal settlements, and low capacity among urban institutions.

Aside from the constraints, the report also highlights key development assets that could be harnessed for transformative, inclusive, and sustainable urban growth in the urban policy framework. The diagnostic concludes with targeted recommendations and a policy roadmap focused on improving urban governance, integrating land-use planning, enhancing institutional capacity, and aligning local development with national and global urban agendas.



UN-Habitat, 2022  
118 pp  
Available in: English



ENG

## Niger State Urban Policy: Feasibility Report

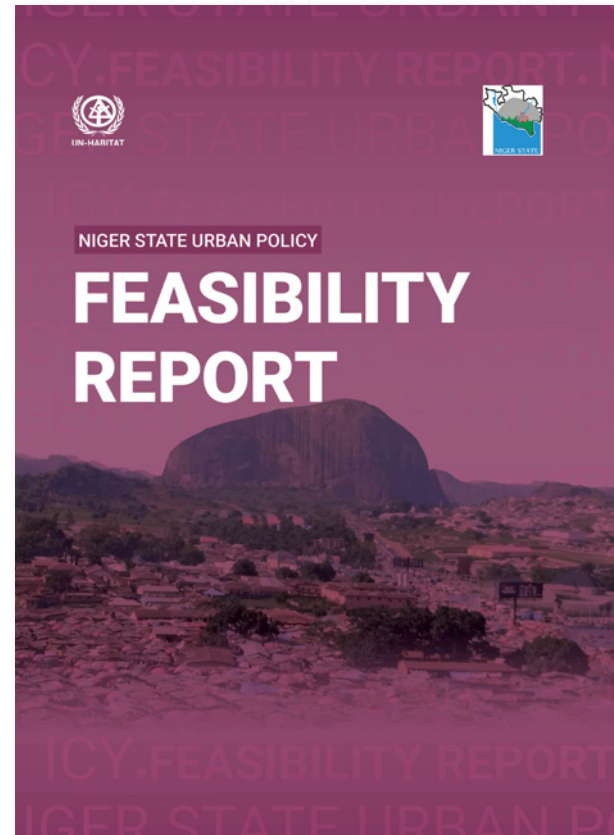
For several years, Niger State has been experiencing increasing pressure on infrastructure, housing, services, and environmental sustainability. This feasibility report makes the case for the formulation of a subnational urban policy that is not only visionary but also unlocks the transformative potential for sustainable urban growth in the state.

Combining demographic analysis, institutional and policy reviews, and a comprehensive review of the statutory planning frameworks, the report provides a deep analysis of the challenges and opportunities posed by rapid urbanization in Niger State. Furthermore, it articulates a coherent strategy for harnessing the transformative power of urbanization to foster compact, connected, inclusive, and sustainable cities.

Beyond the borders of Niger State and Nigeria, this report serves as a critical reference for subnational policymakers, urban planners, development institutions, and technical stakeholders committed to shaping a resilient and equitable urban future in their locality. It is both a call to action and a guide for navigating the complex interplay between urban growth and long-term resilience planning.



UN-Habitat, 2022  
78 pp  
Available in: English



ENG

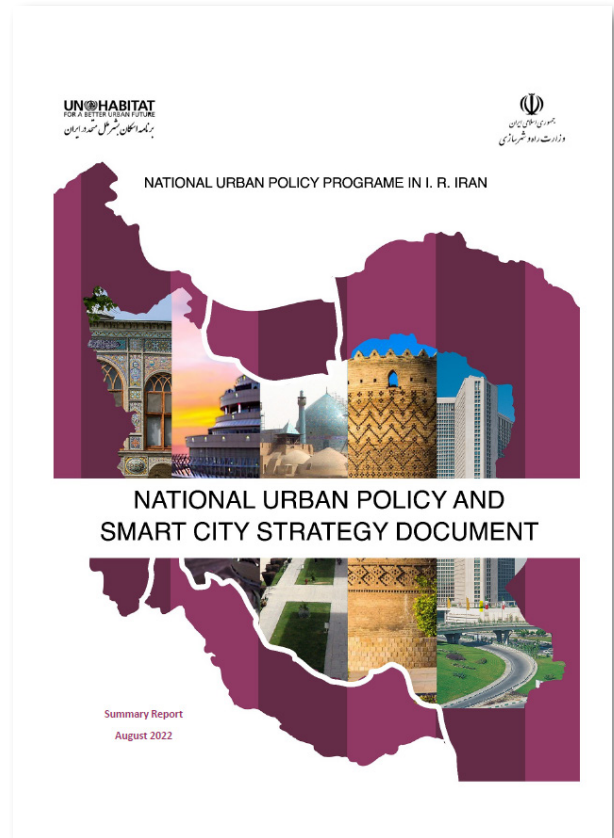
## National Urban Policy & Smart City Strategy Document, Summary Report

The current rate of urbanization will see 5.17 billion people living in urban areas by 2030. Urbanization has many features that can be leveraged to improve the livelihoods of all citizens – rural, peri-urban and urban. A National Urban Policy (NUP) is an important tool for governments that seek to manage and direct rapid urbanization, and to tap into urbanization’s positive effects while accommodating its inevitable stresses.

Urban and regional planning in Iran aims at promoting more productive, inclusive, sustainable and resilient urban development in the long term. In this regard, National Urban Policy programme (NUPP) in I. R. Iran can help establishing a framework for the overall process of urbanisation of the country. NUPP also promotes consolidating and sharing knowledge on urban policy at the global level. It is a tool for implementation and monitoring of global urban agendas, such as the New Urban Agenda, Paris Agreement, and Sendai Framework.



UN-Habitat, 2022  
16 pp  
Available in: English



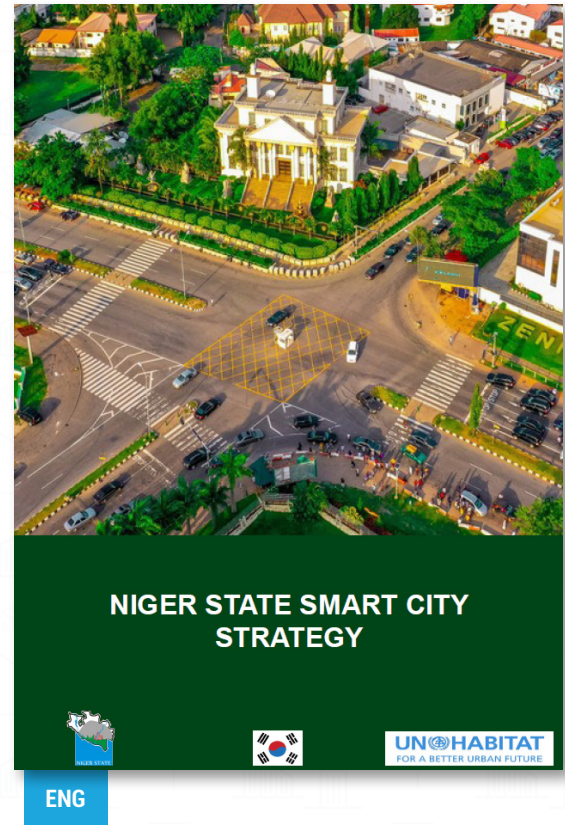
## Niger State Smart City Strategy

Niger State is predominantly a rural state that is urbanising at a fast rate. Urbanisation is bringing about so many people into the towns and cities. Knowing fully that urbanisation has many positive effects on the population and development, the State Government has learnt lessons from other more urbanised states. The State would ensure adequate planning of all urban settlements, in advance and at the appropriate scale, to guide new growth and also to remedy the shortcomings of current unplanned development

This document on Smart Cities is a subset of the Niger State Urban Policy. It provides a framework to help towns and cities in Niger state to identify their community needs, potentials and strengths. It will also provide a conducive business environment, improve the residents' quality of life and provide a clean and sustainable environment. It will also serve as a road map for preparing and implementing this component of the Urban Policy.



UN-Habitat, 2022  
38 pp  
Available in: English



## National Urban Policy for Palestine

The NUP constitutes a framework and reference for the implementation of public interventions in urban areas in Palestine by the ministries and service-providing institutions of the State of Palestine, in addition to being an awareness tool focusing on the promotion of sustainable urban development.

In Palestine, urbanization exceeds the global average given the particularity of its complex geopolitical situation, standing at 77 per cent (71 per cent in the West Bank and 87 per cent in Gaza Strip) with an additional 8 per cent of the population living in refugee camps, which are characterized by high levels of informality and considered of urban nature, thus making the de facto urban population in Palestine about 85 per cent, with the remaining 15 per cent living in rural settings. With a 2.8 per cent urban population growth rate in 2021, Palestine is classified among the top 25 per cent of urbanizing countries.

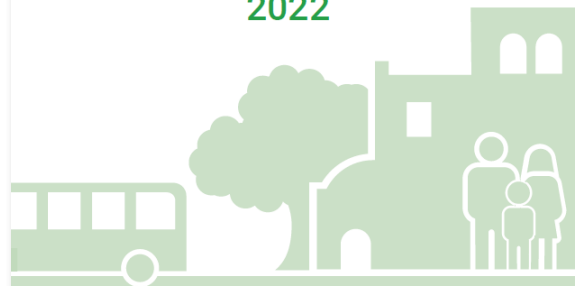


UN-Habitat, National Urban Policy & European Union,  
2022  
32 pp  
Available in: English

# NATIONAL URBAN POLICY for Palestine

*"Towards Sustainable Urban Development,  
Enabling Sovereignty and Resilience of Palestinian  
Cities and Communities"*

Summary  
2022



ENG

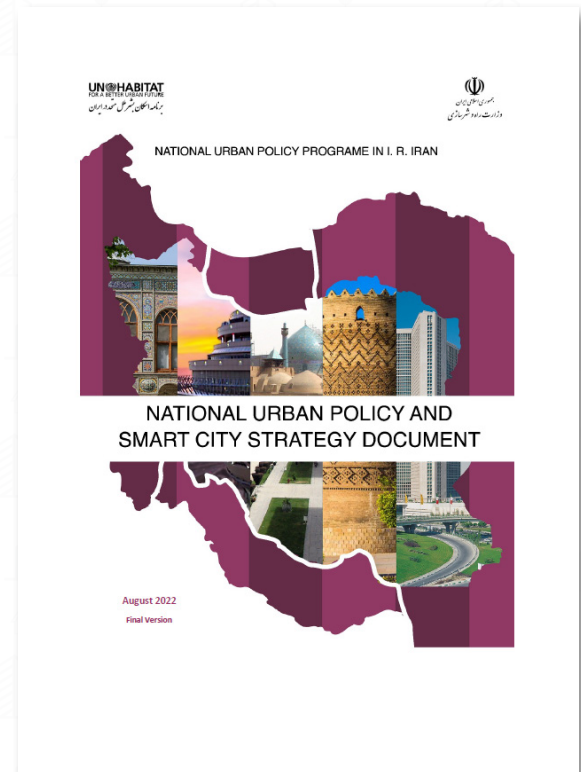
## National Urban Policy and Smart City Strategy Document, Final Version

NUPP in I.R. Iran seeks to contribute to a larger response to urbanization and its emerging challenges, while also consolidating and sharing knowledge on urban policy at the global level. It is also a tool for implementation and monitoring of global urban agendas, such as the New Urban Agenda, Paris Agreement (agreed upon by I. R. Iran in Paris, on 12 December 2015) and Sendai Framework (agreed upon by I. R. Iran in UN World Conference in Sendai, Japan, on 18 March 2015).

The NUPP in I.R. Iran has gone through different steps since its beginning. In the first step, the "Diagnosis Report" was prepared by the selected consultant and launched in December 2018. In the next step of NUPP, by receiving the approval of the Project Document and preparation of the Inception Report, preparation of the National Urban Policy and Smart City Strategy document is pursued as part of the joint programme of the UN-Habitat and the Urban Planning and Architecture Directorate of the Ministry of Roads and Urban Development (MoRUD) and other partners and stakeholders.



UN-Habitat, 2022  
85 pp  
Available in: English



ENG

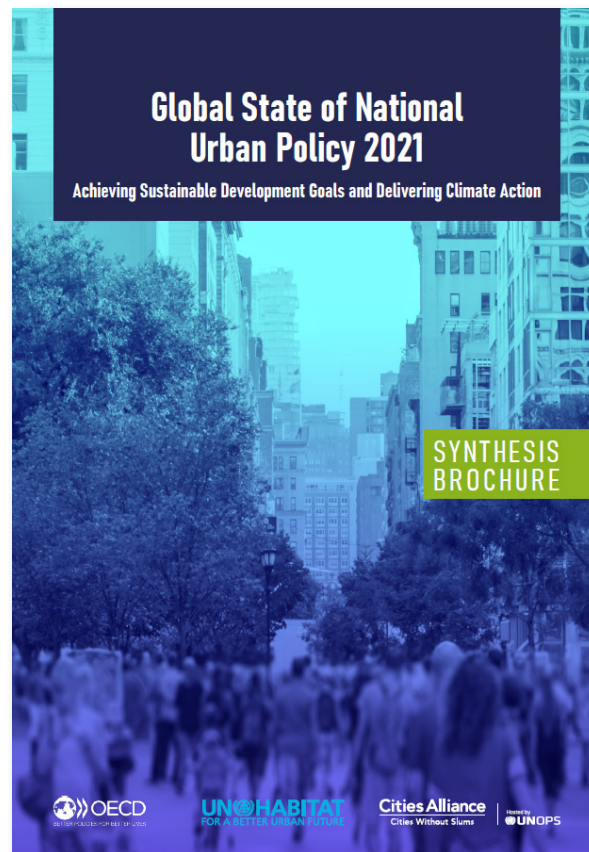
## Global State of National Urban Policy 2021-Synthesis Brochure

National Urban Policy (NUP) is a key instrument to achieve sustainable urban development in a shared responsibility across countries, regions and cities. The scale and urgency of the current urban challenges has given prominence to NUPs. The COVID-19 crisis has amplified the potential of NUPs in shaping more resilient, green and inclusive cities as part of countries recovery packages. This report reviews NUPs of 162 countries across the globe. Building on the first edition launched in 2018, the report serves as a critical source of information and analysis for policymakers and urban professionals, as it establishes the foundation for understanding how and in what forms NUPs have been developed, implemented and monitored globally.

The overarching objective of the report is to assist national governments in advancing their NUP processes, especially in creating a stronger link between NUPs and urban-related global agendas, such as the Agenda 2030 for Sustainable Development and the New Urban Agenda, and in mainstreaming climate action into NUPs. The report is a co-creation of the OECD, UN-Habitat and Cities Alliance, as a key outcome of the National Urban Policy Programme, a global partnership launched in 2016 at the Habitat III Conference



OECD, UN-HABITAT & United Nations Office for Project Services, 2021  
12 pp  
Available in: English



## Global State of National Urban Policy 2021: Achieving Sustainable Development Goals and Delivering Climate Action

National Urban Policy (NUP) is a key instrument to achieve sustainable urban development in a shared responsibility across countries, regions and cities. The scale and urgency of the current urban challenges has given prominence to NUPs. The COVID-19 crisis has amplified the potential of NUPs in shaping more resilient, green and inclusive cities as part of countries recovery packages.

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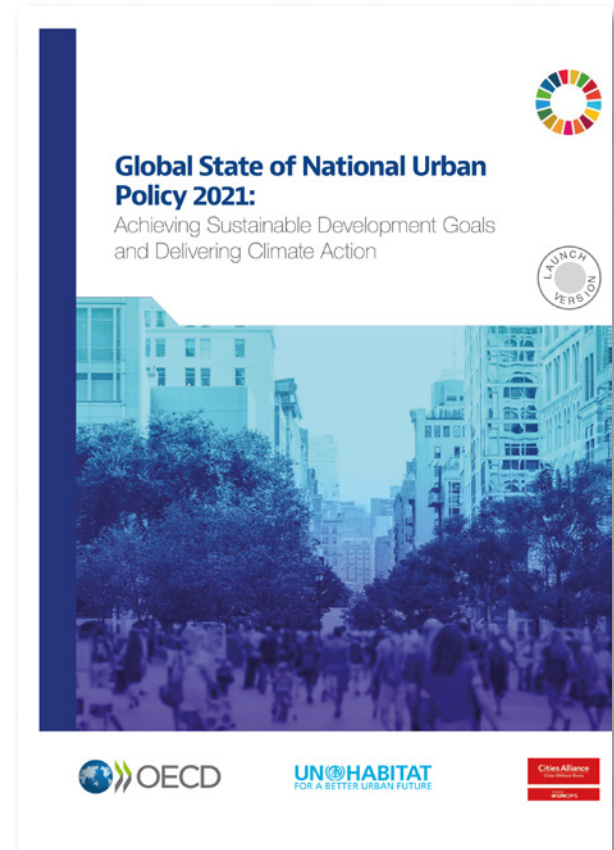


OECD, UN-HABITAT & United Nations Office for Project Services, 2021

**HS Number:** 9789264779501 (PDF)

162 pp.

Available in: English



ENG

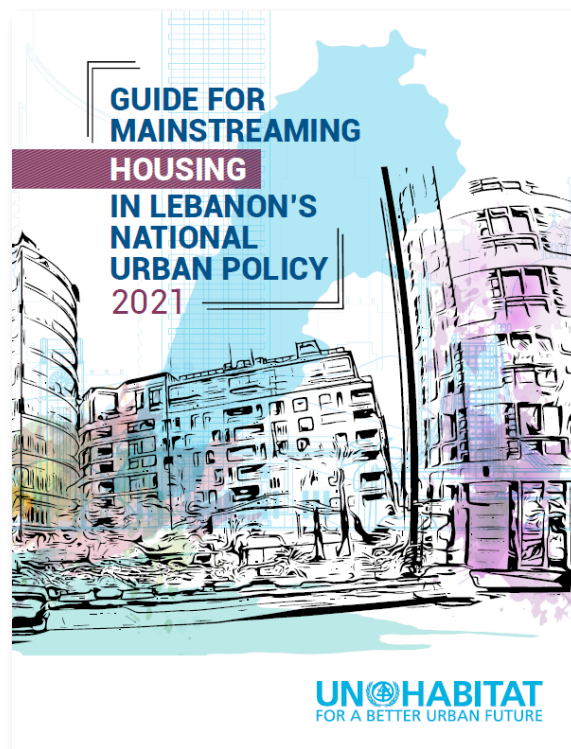
## Guide for Mainstreaming Housing in Lebanon's National Urban Policy

UN-Habitat's NUP programme in Lebanon identified housing as one of two key sectors for policy formulation in 2018. The regulatory, institutional and programmatic gaps, as shown in this guide, have resulted in a dysfunctional housing sector that does not respond to the housing needs of the different population groups residing in Lebanon. The consecutive crises, compounded by the Beirut Port explosion, have exacerbated the housing situation for many households.

The response frameworks to the ongoing crises, the Lebanon Crisis Response Plan (Government of Lebanon and the United Nations, 2021) and most recently the Lebanon 3RF (World Bank, European Union and United Nations, 2020a), have been increasingly shedding light on the importance of longer-term evidence-based policy reform in the housing sector to enable a well-functioning housing market that responds to the different needs of the country's residents and to better guide humanitarian and relief efforts.



UN-Habitat & United Nations  
Department of Economic and Social Affairs, 2021  
90 pp  
Available in: English



ENG

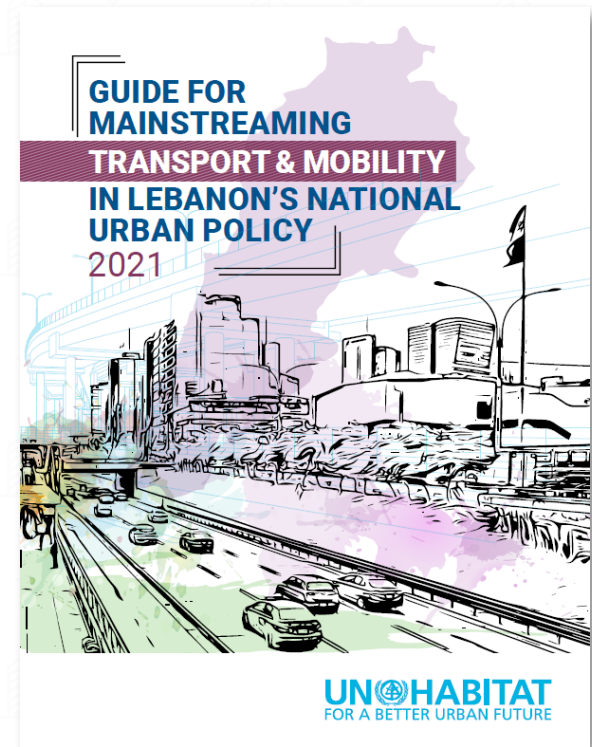
## Guide for Mainstreaming Transport and Mobility in Lebanon's National Urban Policy

As a result of this process, this guide, aimed primarily at policymakers and decision-makers in transport and urban planning spheres, provides a set of policy recommendations for the Lebanese transport sector, structured under the commonly adopted EASI policy formulation framework for sustainable transport and mobility. "Enable" policies are meant to prepare the appropriate governance environment necessary for supporting the implementation of the "avoid," "shift" and "improve" policies. "Avoid" policies aim to reduce the need for motorized travel through concurrent landuse and transport planning and TDM. "Shift" policies 25

For more information, see UN-Habitat Lebanon (2021c). aim to increase the modal shares of public transport and alternative transport means, such as walking and cycling. "Improve" policies aim to improve the efficiency of transport modes while minimizing their environmental footprint.



UN-Habitat & United Nations  
Department of Economic and Social Affairs, 2021  
92 pp  
Available in: English



ENG

## Implementing the New Urban Agenda and SDGs in Sierra Leone

In collaboration with the UN-Habitat and support of development partners, the Government of Sierra Leone is in the process of developing a National Urban Policy (NUP) to support its national sustainable urban transformation agenda and translation into a middle-income country by 2039.



UN-Habitat, 2021  
41 pp  
Available in: English



### IMPLEMENTING THE NEW URBAN AGENDA AND SDGs IN SIERRA LEONE



Feasibility study phase

FIRST CAPACITY BUILDING WORKSHOP  
REPORT

10TH AUGUST 2021  
Youyi Building, Freetown, Sierra Leone

UN HABITAT  
FOR A BETTER URBAN FUTURE

ENG

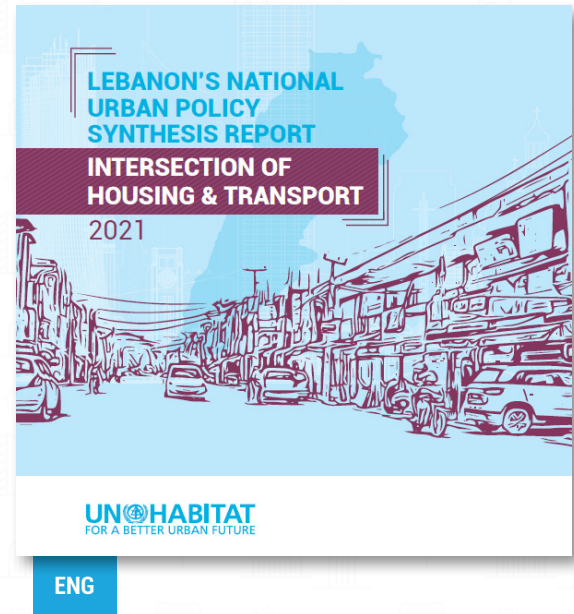
## Lebanon's National Urban Policy Synthesis Report-Intersection of Housing and Transport

The making of inclusive and sustainable communities is deeply rooted in the interconnectedness of the housing and transport sectors, along with other sectors. Reversing the human development challenges that Lebanon faces necessitates a joint or integrated planning of the housing and transport sectors, which are realms of critical importance in this highly urbanized country, to set the path for sustainable urbanization. Integrating both sectors in the country's NUP, as a guiding framework for urban development and sustainable planning, presents several challenges. Urban policy is not recognized as a standalone category in the making of public policy in Lebanon (UN-Habitat Lebanon, 2018).

In addition, there is a lack of housing and transport policies. The development of cross-sectoral strategies and integrated policies necessitates regulatory and institutional reforms that move away from the traditionally limited tools (such as land-use planning) and the institutional fragmentation among the different stakeholders responsible for urban planning in Lebanon. It also requires capacitating governance actors with the tools and means for multisectoral, integrated policy formulation, implementation and monitoring, as well as institutionalizing the suitable platforms for exchange, coordination and collaboration.



UN-Habitat & United Nations  
Department of Economic and Social Affairs, 2021  
43 pp  
Available in: English



## Niger State Urban Support Programme (NSUSP)


Niger State, is one of the 36 States in the Federal Government of Nigeria and the largest in terms of landmass. The state covers 76,363 km<sup>2</sup> and has a population of 4.5 million people. It borders the Republic of Benin to the west, Kebbi and Zamfara states to the north, Kaduna and Federal City Territory (FCT) to the east, and Kogi and Kwara to the south. Niger state is popularly known as the “Power State”.




Niger State, UN-Habitat & Ministry of Land, Infrastructure and Transport Republic of Korea, 2021

4 pp

Available in: English



**UN-HABITAT**  
FOR A BETTER URBAN FUTURE




Ministry of Land,  
Infrastructure and Transport  
REPUBLIC OF KOREA

### NIGER STATE URBAN SUPPORT PROGRAMME (NSUSP)


**Niger State**

Indicator (2012)	Value
Total Population	4,500,000
Area	76,363 Km <sup>2</sup>

**Location**



■ Niger State  
■ Nigeria



**INTRODUCTION**

Niger State, is one of the 36 States in the Federal Government of Nigeria and the largest in terms of landmass. The state covers 76,363 km<sup>2</sup> and has a population of 4.5 million people. It borders the Republic of Benin to the west, Kebbi and Zamfara states to the north, Kaduna and Federal City Territory (FCT) to the east, and Kogi and Kwara to the south. Niger state is popularly known as the “Power State” as it is home to three major Hydro Electric Dams in Nigeria (Kanji – 960MW, Jebba – 540MW, Shiroro – 600MW) and Zungeru (700 MW) which is under construction. Niger state, potential hot bed for economic activity produces large quantities of rice, millet, maize and yam for local consumption and export. It is also endowed with mineral deposits like gold, iron, copper, lead and columbite.

The state has four major urban centers, Minna (state capital), Bida, Suleja and Kontagora which are rapidly growing putting tremendous strain on the ability of the state government to provide basic urban infrastructure services. Urban poverty is evident from youth unemployment, poor housing and inadequate mobility is rife in Minna and Suleja urban areas.

Considering this, that Niger State Government with a vision of economic transformation sought assistance of UN-Habitat through the Niger State Urban Technical Support Programme.

The programme aims to provide technical assistance to Niger State Government to implement the New Urban Agenda through among others; - formulation of Niger State urban development policy, preparation of urban development plans for Minna and Suleja, development of pilot smart city in Suleja, capacity development and technical support to various Niger State projects.

“The project aims to provide technical assistance to Niger State Government to implement the New Urban Agenda.”

ENG

## National Urban Policy Programme Evaluation Report 2014-2021

The challenges and opportunities presented by urbanization are motivations to both promote and strengthen urban policy. Effective planning of urban development, coordinated through national urban policy, provides a basis for ameliorating the effects of economic disadvantage, climate change and sustainability, and can promote a more equitable and inclusive society.

The economic benefits of agglomeration, where productivity increases through the close interaction of people, business and institutions and infrastructure, can overcome the disadvantages of large cities, such as congestion and pollution, through sound urban policy. Along with the rapid rate of urbanization over much of the world in recent decades, these insights provide the basis for UN-Habitat's National Urban Policy Programme.

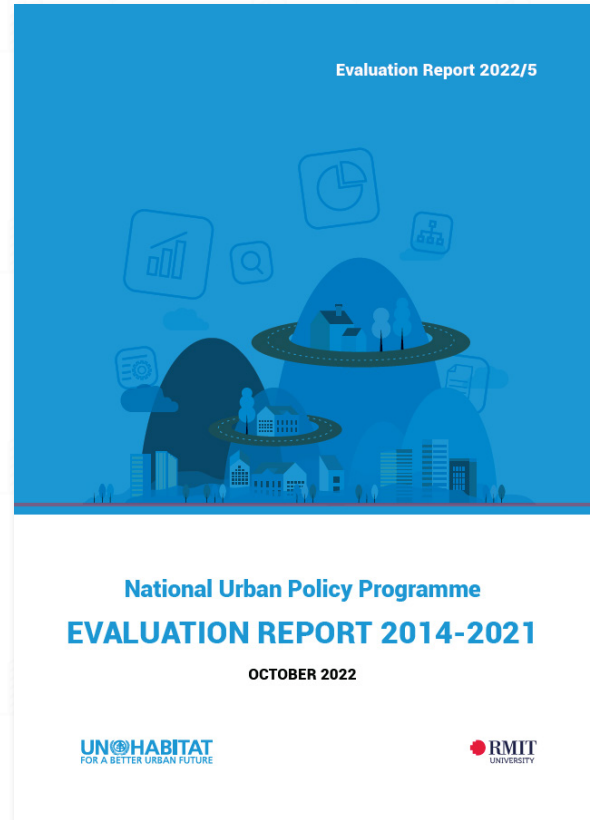


UN-Habitat & RMIT, 2021

**HS Number:** HS/027/22E

96 pp

Available in: English



ENG

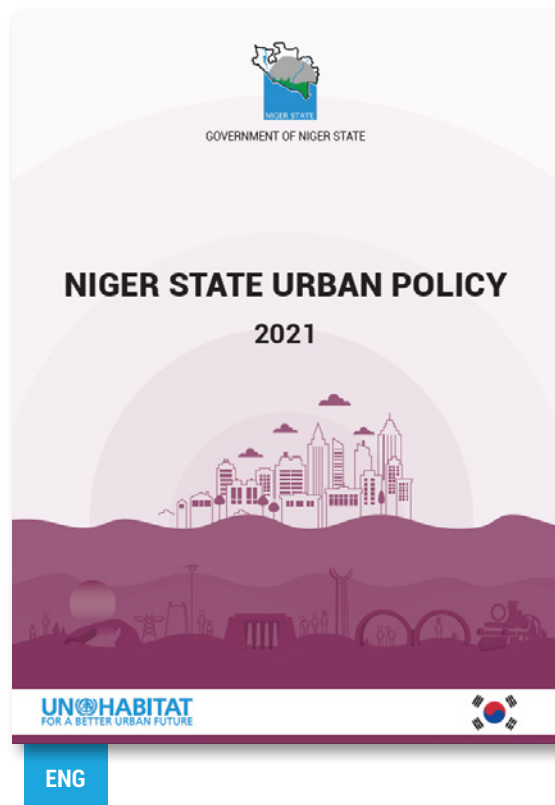
## NIGER STATE URBAN POLICY 2021

Niger State Government has considered it necessary to remedy the shortcomings in the human settlements by preparing and implementing a well-thought-out urban policy . A policy that would enhance the potentials of urban and rural areas through effective settlement planning, provision of basic services and coordinated investments in people and places, and effective management of urban growth.

Niger State is endowed with numerous natural resources, notably its vast landmass (over 76,000 km<sup>2</sup>), active young population, arable land for mechanized farming, pleasant climate and water-bodies . It's tangible economic assets also include a domestic airport, Inland Port and over 386 km rail line . Despite all these potentials, the State is facing many developmental issues and challenges.



UN-Habitat, 2021  
110 pp  
Available in: English



## A quick Thematic Guide for Mainstreaming Safe, Inclusive and Accessible Public Spaces into National Urban Policies

The guide is divided into two sections. Section one gives an overview of public space as generators of prosperous cities, the national urban policy process and the need for integrating the two. It also highlights streets as vital ingredient for cities and how their designs and management facilitate sustainable urbanization. Insights on NUPs development process; pillars and principles in support of implementation and monitoring of the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), the New Urban Agenda (NUA) among other international frameworks highlighted.

Section two discusses how NUP can support local government policy on public space design, formulation, implementation, monitoring and evaluation strategies through strong leadership and stakeholder participation. Clear recommendations on how to integrate public space in each of the NUP's development phases: feasibility, diagnosis, formulation, implementation, monitoring and evaluation are given. Further, analysis on how NUP can support national and local capacity development for public space has also been discussed.

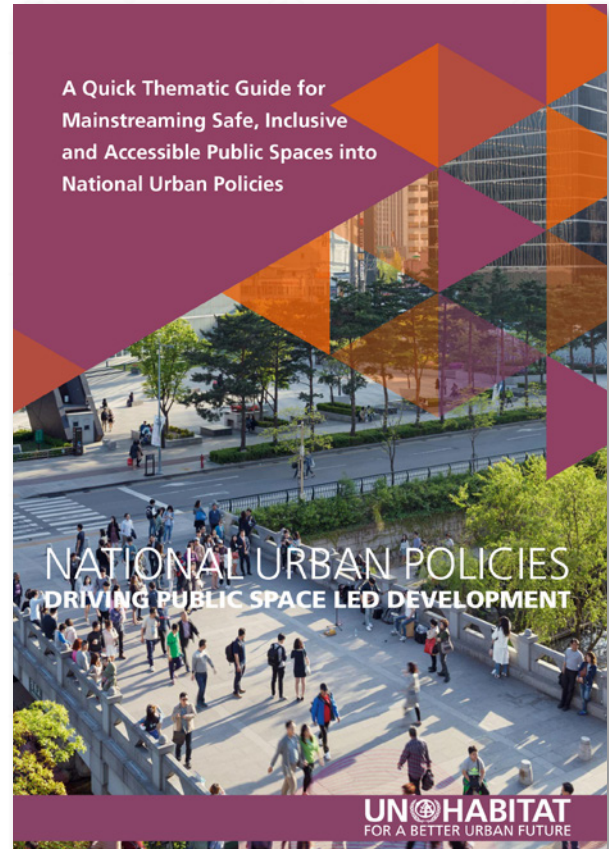


UN-Habitat, 2020

**HS Number:** HS/004/20E

42 pp.

Available in: English



ENG

## Monitoring and Evaluating National Urban Policy: A GUIDE

National Urban Policies (NUP) are critical for framing sustainable urban development. Adequately monitored and evaluated NUP help achieve their expected results. The Monitoring and Evaluating National Urban Policy: A Guide is intended to be used as a tool to help countries and their different spheres of government know when, and if, policies are working or not and if they are well-articulated with global policy and development agendas. This Guide further highlights how national, local and regional governments, along with other stakeholders, through M&E, should all be involved in the development and implementation of urban policies.

Monitoring and Evaluation (M&E) is a powerful public management tool that has been used to improve the way governments and organizations achieve results. As many countries embark on sustainable urbanization and the achievement of the New Urban Agenda (NUA), the M&E tools outlined here should be increasingly used to make improvements in policy making, management, strengthening dialogue and collaboration between all levels of government and other actors. Well-executed urban policy and M&E, with specific targets and indicators, have the power to increase accountability, transparency, effectiveness, efficiency and performance in implementing the NUA.



English

page | 46



Arabic

UN-Habitat, UCLG, 2020  
**HS Number:** HS/009/20E  
 39 pp  
 Available in: English



**UN-HABITAT**  
 FOR A BETTER URBAN FUTURE

**UCLG**  
 United Cities  
 and Local Governments

ENG

ARB

## Developing National Urban Policies: Ways Forward to Green and Smart Cities

This book discusses and analyzes past and ongoing national urban policy development efforts from around the globe, particularly those that can lead the way toward smart and green cities. In view of the adoption of the UN's 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, especially the goal to have cities that are inclusive, safe, resilient and sustainable, urban policies that can help achieve this goal are urgently needed.

The UN-Habitat (HABITAT III) puts national urban policies at the heart of implementing and rethinking the urban agenda, and identifies them as being integral to the equitable and sustainable development of nations. Against this background, this important book, which gathers contributions from academics, planners and urban specialists, reviews existing urban policies from developing and developed nations, discusses various countries' smart and green urban policies, and outlines the way forward.

As such, it is essential reading for all social scientists, planners, designers, architects, and policymakers working on urban development around the world.

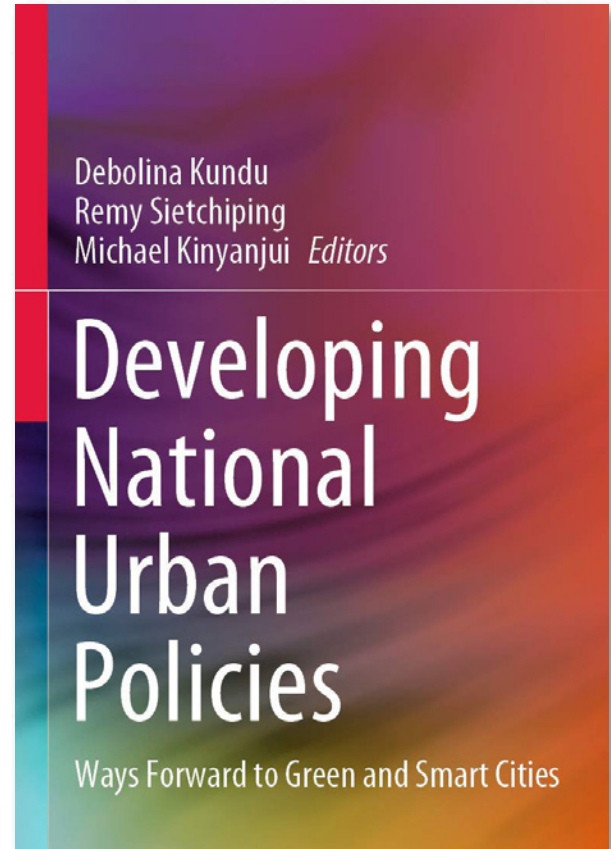


Springer, 2020

**HS Number:** ISBN 978-981-15-3738-7

445 pp.

Available in: English



ENG

## Local Governance in the New Urban Agenda

The book explores and discusses some of the changes, challenges and opportunities confronting local governance in the context of the new urban paradigm associated with the HABITAT III New Urban Agenda, a 20-year strategy for sustainable urbanization, adopted in October 2016 in Quito, Ecuador.

The chapters included in the book address public policy issues from different theoretical perspectives and methodological approaches, written by authors from different academic disciplines within the broad area of social sciences (Geography, Political Science, Public Administration, Spatial Planning, Law, Regional Science, among other fields), and offer an inter-disciplinary vision of these issues. The chapters are written by members of the International Geographical Union (IGU) Commission on Geography of Governance.

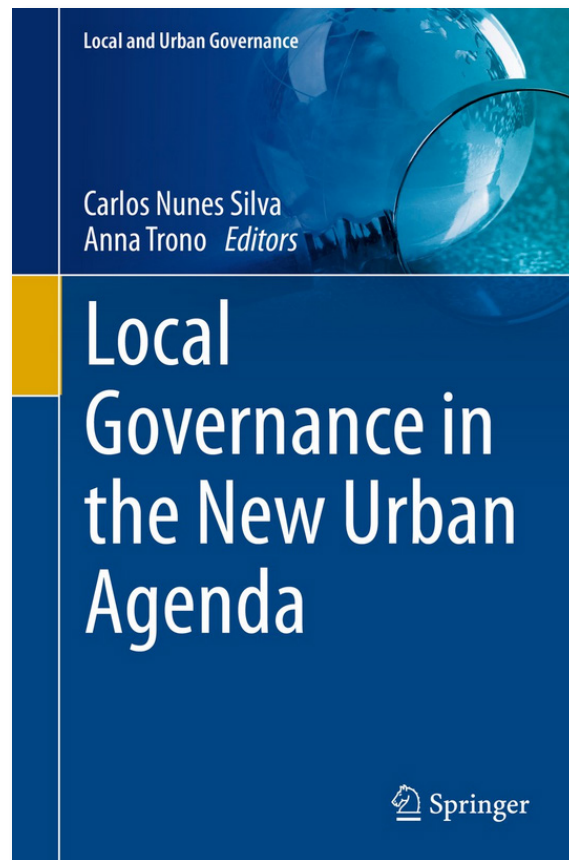


Springer, 2020

**ISBN** 978-3-030-47135-4

363 pp

Available in: English



## Sub-National Urban Policy: A Guide

The development of sub-national urban policies offers sub-national governments the opportunity to target their urban agenda according to the problems and needs of each territory, be that at city or regional level. The practice of sub-national governance is forging a new model of urban development that coherently integrates the national and sub-national purpose with more localized challenges.

This makes more efficient multilevel governance and decentralizes skills and resources to achieve equity, well-being and shared prosperity in an urbanizing world. This guide provides a conceptual and methodological framework for those involved in sub-national government. It outlines the concept of such a framework, its objectives and the policies responses at sub-national levels.

It also features a comprehensive look at the five phases of sub-national urban policy development and outlines the roles and responsibilities of the actors tasked with implementing the sub-national urban policy.



English



Arabic

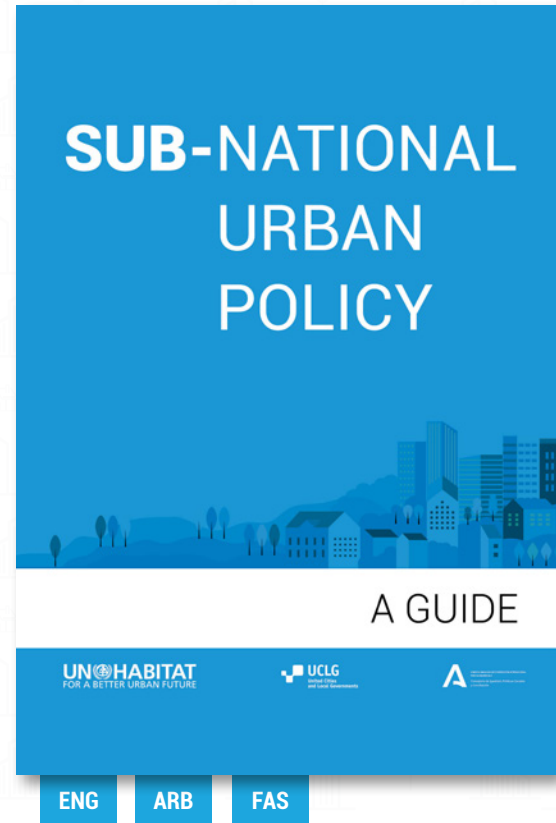


Persian

UN-Habitat, UCLG, AAICD

**HS Number:** HS/055/20E

Available in: English, Arabic  
and Persian



## Diagnosis Note for Liberia: Implement the New Urban Agenda through National Urban Policy

United Nations projections are that by 2050 Liberia's population will have almost tripled to 6.7 million, with 68.2 per cent of its people living in urban areas. Like many other countries, Liberia is currently developing a national urban policy to manage this urbanization sustainably, and to leverage the opportunities it brings to accelerate achievement of the country's development agenda and poverty reduction strategy.

The development of such a policy has five phases; the feasibility phase, diagnostic phase, formulation phase, implementation phase and the monitoring and evaluation phase. Liberia is currently conducting its diagnostic phase, which when completed, it will be followed by the formulation, implementation, and monitoring and evaluation phases.

This Diagnosis Note analyses the issues raised in the feasibility phase: it identifies urban trends in Liberia, priority opportunities and challenges. It also proposes key areas for consideration during policy formulation.

The report is intended to be useful to policy makers and stakeholders involved in Liberia's NUP development. It also has useful information for other local and national governments involved in a similar process.



UN-Habitat & Cities Alliance, 2020

**HS Number:** HS/054/20E

85 pp

Available in: English



**UN-HABITAT**  
FOR A BETTER URBAN FUTURE



**Cities Alliance**  
Cities Without Slums

ENG

## NATIONAL URBAN POLICY: Pacific Region Report

The Pacific Region is very diverse with regard to urbanization. The Region includes countries with urbanization rates below 20 percent (Papua New Guinea, Solomon Islands) as well as countries where more people live in cities and towns than in rural villages or outer islands (Cook Islands, Fiji, Kiribati, Marshall Islands, Palau).

There are large cities (Port Moresby in Papua New Guinea) and growing urban metropolitan areas (Greater Suva, Fiji); whilst some of the smallest capitals in area and population in the world, both in terms of population and area, can be found in the region (for example Funafuti in Tuvalu). Urban growth rates are as varied; with shrinking urban areas in some countries, and very rapid urban growth in others are documented in this publication.

Yet, since 2004, Pacific Island countries have been organizing the Pacific Urban Forum to collectively discuss challenges and opportunities of urbanization despite these differences in urbanization dynamics and patterns. As a result of these dialogues, several countries have developed National Urban Policies (or National Urbanization Policies), have established national offices to manage urbanization and minimise development impacts, and have included urbanization in their national development frameworks.

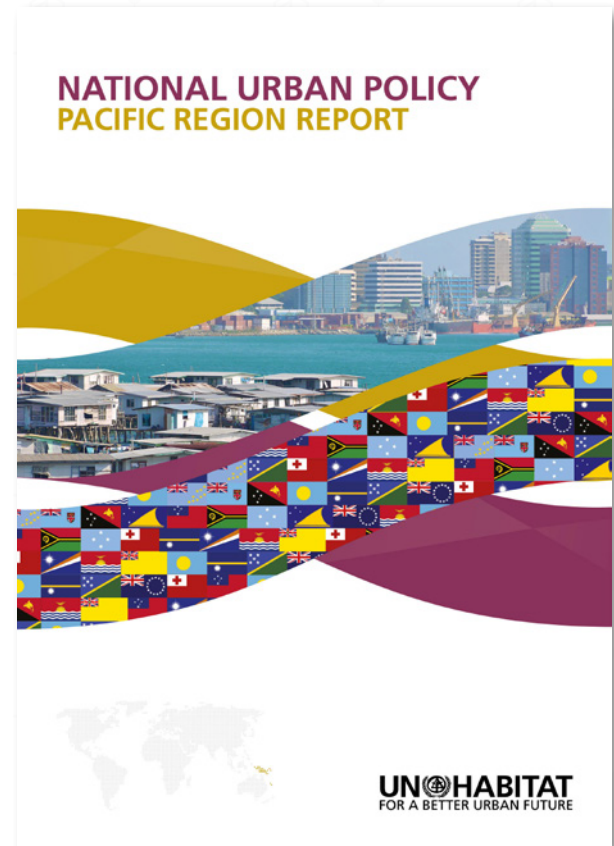


UN-Habitat, 2020

**HS Number:** HS/008/20E

108 pp., 176 x 250 mm

Available in: English



ENG

## Korea exchange visit booklet: National Urban Policy programme: Smart Cities Korea visit

An effective response to the increasing demand for support to develop National Urban Policies requires a concerted effort to develop the necessary tools and knowledge on NUP, enhance capacity including in the areas of smart and green urban development, provide targeted technical and advisory services to member states, and reinforce and establish partnerships while improving advocacy for NUP.

Building on previous project experiences and responding to the growing demand and needs from countries and partners, UN-Habitat, through the National Urban Policy Programme, will continue its support to the three pilot countries, equipping them with relevant tools for the development and implementation of integrated and inclusive National Urban Policy and Smart City Strategies.



UN-Habitat, 2019

**HS Number:** HS/000/00A

48 pp., 176 x 250 mm

Available in: English



## How to Formulate a National Urban Policy: a Practical Guide

Managing the unprecedented scale of urbanization in developing countries is now becoming imperative, not least because the next 10 years will see nearly a billion more people around the world moving to urban areas.

Governments have to prepare for this and the demands that such growth will have on urban infrastructure, resources and finances by developing a national urban policy that adequately responds to the challenges of urbanization. Formulating such a policy is the focus of this document. It is one in a series of documents produced by UN-Habitat that, collectively, assist all stakeholders to develop a national urban policy.

Covering issues such as the responsibilities of various stakeholders, what are the possible policy options, where should funds come from, and who will lead implementation, this guide is an indispensable reference for policy makers, urban development departments and government ministries.



English

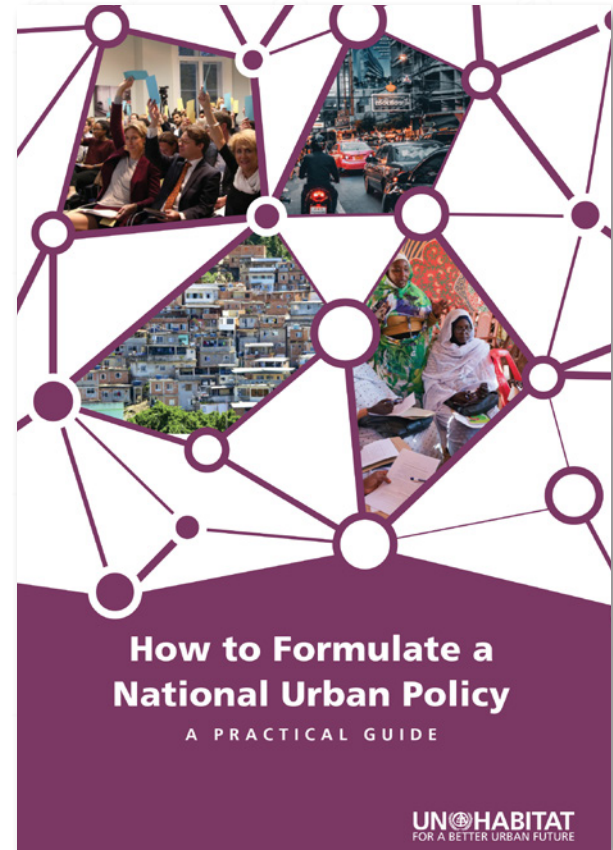


Arabic

UN-Habitat, 2019

**HS Number:** HS/016/19E

48 pp., 148 x 210 mm



ENG

ARB

## Increasing Social Inclusion Through National Urban Policy-EGM Bolivia 2019

Addressing inclusion is a high priority of the Government of Bolivia and is a central pillar of the UN-Habitat programme in Bolivia. Therefore, the EGM will contribute to the ongoing work on social inclusion and human rights in Bolivian cities.

The UN-Habitat Programme in Bolivia aims to enhance the capacity of the government through all instruments of the National Urban Policy, Challenge overview to monitor and use quality information in the situation analysis for decision-making, adequate planning and implementation of legislation, effective policies and programmes, ensuring rights and equality among all inhabitants, taking into account gender issues and inclusion of youth and other identified vulnerable groups.



UN-Habitat, 2019

**HS Number:** HS/050/19E

40 pp

Available in: English



Increasing Social Inclusion Through National Urban Policy



EXPERT GROUP MEETING  
BOLIVIA 2019

**UN HABITAT**  
FOR A BETTER URBAN FUTURE

ENG

## 20+ Reasons why NUP matters

A National Urban Policy (NUP) is a central tool available to governments and policy makers to facilitate the management and direction of urbanization. A NUP works to turn the challenges of urbanization into opportunities by facilitating discussion and emphasizing the importance of planning and coordination.

This planning will facilitate the conditions that are required to turn urbanization into a productive force. This can ultimately increase international competitiveness at the local, regional, and national levels as well as promote the socially, economically, and environmentally sustainable growth of human settlements.

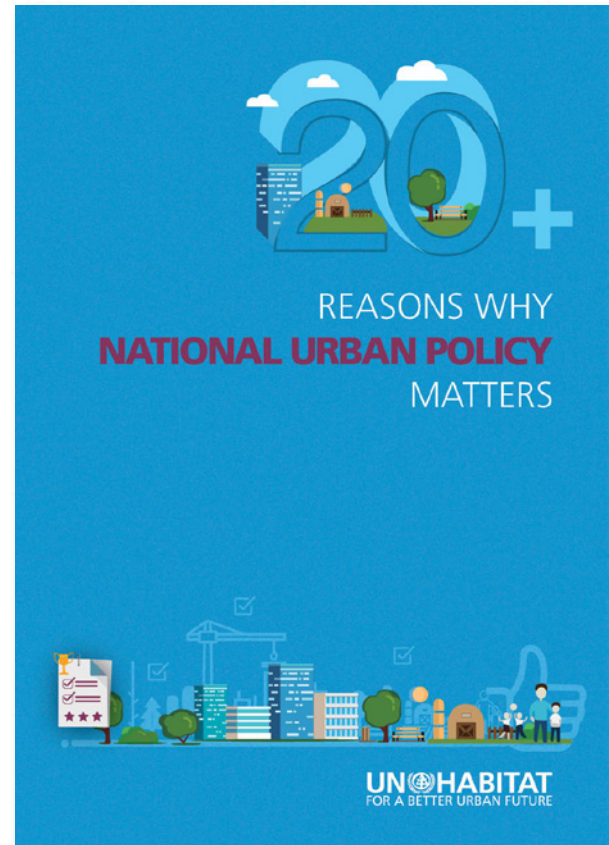


UN-Habitat, 2019

**HS Number:**HS/081/18E

32 pp

Available in: English



ENG

## Developing a National Urban Policy for Liberia: Monrovia communiqué

After two destructive civil conflicts, Liberia's proactive efforts to revive its economy and development are reflected by the improvements and reconstruction taking place in its cities. However, the disproportionate rate of urbanisation and urban primacy has generated significant challenges which could impede national development.

If Liberia is to achieve inclusive economic growth and sustainable urban development, it urgently needs an enabling framework to provide coordination among different sectors and ministries, address urban challenges, and maximise the opportunities offered by urbanisation, while mitigating potential adverse externalities.

Developing the Liberia National Urban Policy is expected to coordinate the work of different sectors, establish incentives for more sustainable practices, and spur a balanced system of cities and towns through strengthening urban-rural linkages and equitable resources allocation.



UN-Habitat, Nov 2019  
2 pp., 148 x 210 mm  
Available in: English



## Implementing the New Urban Agenda and SDGs in Liberia: Towards a National Urban Policy Second National Urban Forum Report

This report documents the key outcomes of discussions held during the second National Urban Forum (NUF) for Liberia in Monrovia on 26th November 2019. It summarises inputs from various speakers and participants gathered through high-level panel discussions, stakeholder roundtables, plenary meetings, question and answer sessions and written comments.

It presents how the Forum engaged government officials, local government officials from all parts of Liberia, women's groups, youth groups, slum dwellers, street vendors and petty traders, regional government representatives and actors on the environment and climate change. This Forum report also presents the preliminary policy recommendations formulated for further analysis in subsequent stages of the development of the NUP in Liberia.



UN-Habitat, 2019

**HS Number:** HS/023/20E

64 pp

Available in: English

## IMPLEMENTING THE NEW URBAN AGENDA AND SDGS IN LIBERIA; TOWARDS A NATIONAL URBAN POLICY

Second National Urban Forum Report

26<sup>th</sup> November 2019 - Monrovia City Corporation, Monrovia



**Cities Alliance**  
Cities Without Slums

ENG

## National Urban Policy Regional Report: Sub-Saharan Africa Report

This report aims to survey, evaluate and inform the development of National Urban Policies in the African Region, the fastest-urbanizing region in the world. The African region is extremely relevant to analyze the development and potential of National Urban Policies as the challenges and opportunities posed by urbanization in the region are particularly acute.

While the rate of urbanization threatens to exacerbate pre-existing issues of vulnerability to climate change, urban poverty and the spread of informal settlements; the relatively recent onset of the urban transition in the region also means that it has the opportunity and latitude to fully embrace a modern urban paradigm shift towards sustainable urban development.

The report is part of a series of five regional reports assessing the state of national urban policies that complement the Global State of National Urban Policies Report, conducted in collaboration between UN-Habitat and the OECD.



UN-Habitat, 2018

**ISBN Number:** (Volume) 978-92-1-132804-2

60 pp., 176 x 250 mm

Available in: English



ENG

## National Urban Policy Regional Report: Asia & Pacific Report

This report reviews, informs and evaluates national urban policies and strategies developed by national governments in the Asia and Pacific region. The findings uncover the rich experience of recent and older national urban programs in the region. For each country studied, the report highlights its institutional structures, legal frameworks and foundations, and financial and technical capacity, oriented to promoting long-term policy development monitoring of urban problems and responses.

The report provided a good evidence to inform global policy making and process and a wealth that will assist UN-Habitat, policy makers, academia and other national and international stakeholders involved with urban policy and management.

This report is part of a series of five regional reports assessing the state of national urban policies that complement the Global State of National Urban Policies Report, conducted in collaboration between UN-Habitat and the OECD.



UN-Habitat, 2018

**ISBN Number:** (Volume) 978-92-1-132804-2

109 pp., 176 x 250 mm

Available in: English



ENG

## National Urban Policy Regional Report: Latin America & The Caribbean

In just half a century, Latin America and the Caribbean became the most urbanized region in the world, with more than 80% of its population living in urban areas. As this urban transition outpaced initial policy responses, the region therefore illustrates acutely some of the challenges brought about by uncontrolled and rapid urbanization - such as high socio-economic and territorial inequalities and environmental degradation – but also is a dynamic and creative space of experimentation in facing them.

Through a review of NUPs in 20 countries, and an indepth analysis of five countries, this report analyses the variety of mechanisms at different phases of the urban policy cycle, and attempts to highlight best practices, obstacles encountered, and possible solutions to address the challenges and leverage the opportunities of urbanization in the region.

The report is part of a series of five regional reports assessing the state of national urban policies that complement the Global State of National Urban Policies Report, conducted in collaboration between UN-Habitat and the OECD.



UN-Habitat, 2018

**ISBN Number:** (Volume) 978-92-1-132804-2

100 pp., 176 x 250 mm

Available in: English



ENG

## National Urban Policy Regional Report: Arab States

Cities of the Arab region are some of the oldest continuously inhabited human settlements in the world; and today, the region remains a particularly interesting case for the analysis of the development of National Urban Policies.

These circumstances are for instance: a tradition of political centralization, large youth populations demanding equal social, political and economic opportunities, an extreme vulnerability to climate change through food and water insecurity, and the destabilizing effects of political turmoil and conflicts. The report therefore reviews, in the Arab region, the state of national urban policies defined in the Arab defined by UN-Habitat as “a coherent set of decisions derived through a deliberate government-led process of coordinating and rallying various actors for a common vision and goal that will promote more transformative, productive, inclusive and resilient urban development for the long term”.

This study is particularly timely, first of all because it follows Habitat III and Agenda 2030, and accompanies the Second International Conference on National Policy in Paris in May 2016.



UN-Habitat, 2018

**ISBN Number:** (Volume) 978-92-1-132804-2

96 pp., 176 x 250 mm

Available in: English



ENG

## National Urban Policy Regional Report: Europe & North America

The focus of this report is to assess the development, implementation, and monitoring and evaluation of National Urban Policy in Europe and North America, one of the most urbanized regions in the world, with a long and informative tradition of urban and territorial planning.

This report is a good reference for policy-makers, practitioners and academia and contribute to the elaboration of policies that enable and facilitate sustainable urban development.

The report is part of a series of five regional reports assessing the state of national urban policies that complement the Global State of National Urban Policies Report, conducted in collaboration between UN-Habitat and the OECD. These studies are timely, as they follow up on Habitat III and Agenda 2030 for Sustainable Development the role of National Urban Policies, and accompany the Second International Conference on National Policy in Paris in May 2016.



UN-Habitat, 2018

**ISBN Number:** (Volume) 978-92-1-132804-2

48 pp., 176 x 250 mm

Available in: English



ENG

## Global State Report of National Urban Policy

Global State of National Urban Policy is a first attempt to assess the status of national urban policy development in 150 countries. In the report you will understand why, how and in what forms NUPs have been developed, implemented and monitored globally.

The report sets a solid foundation for a common methodology to monitor the progress of NUPs at the global level. Further, it outlines how many countries have an explicit NUP, the focus of the policy in each country, the existence or not of a dedicated urban agency or department, and the capacity available for effective policy making. The report is also a significant contribution to the monitoring and implementation of the New Urban Agenda and the Sustainable Development Goals.

This work is a joint effort between UN-Habitat and the Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development, and supported by the Royal Melbourne Institute of Technology. It is considered to be an important outcome of the National Urban Policy Programme, a global initiative launched by UN-Habitat, OECD and Cities Alliance at the Habitat III Conference in October 2016.



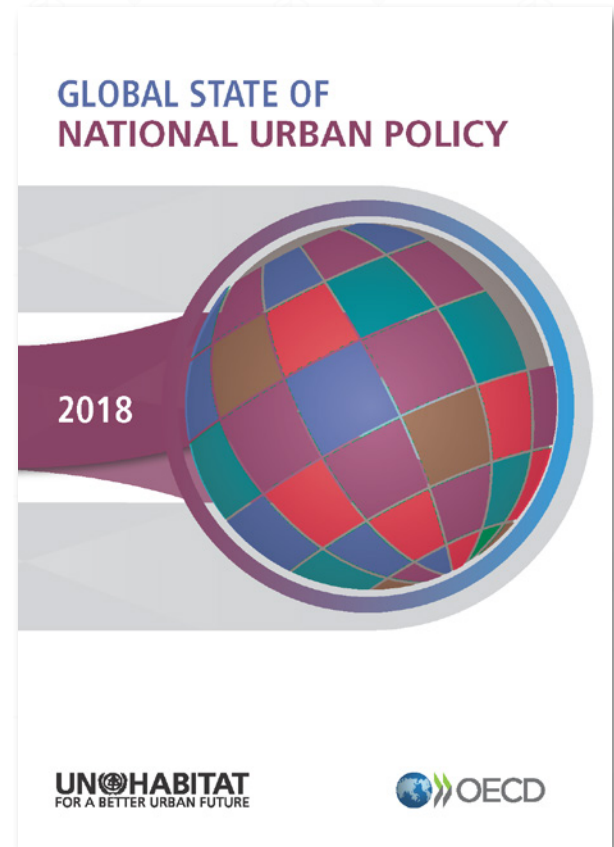
UN-Habitat, 2018

**HS Number:** HS/040/18E

**ISBN Series Number:** 978-92-1-132804-2

120 pp., 176 x 250 mm

Available in: English

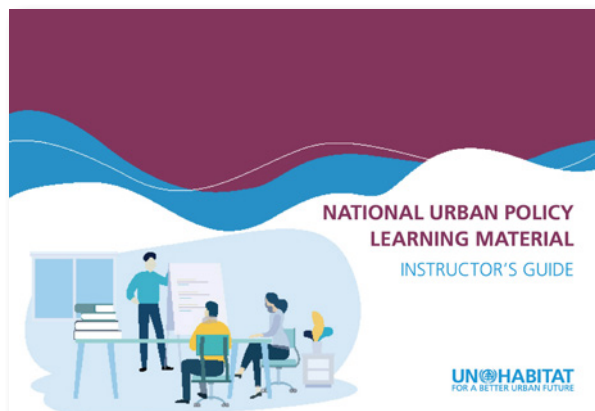


ENG

## National Urban Policy: Participant Learning Resource Guide

After completing the pilot NUP Policy process training participants should be able to:

- Understand the NUP policy process
- Assess & reflect on one's own & fellow learner's NUP policy process
- Create a clear transfer of learning plan for implementation of NUP learning materials
- Give feedback on the piloted NUP learning materials



ENG ARB



English



Arabic

UN-Habitat, 2018

## The National Urban Policy Database: Edition 2016 & 2018

The UN-Habitat National Urban Policy Database provides a global overview of the state of urban policy at the national level. The database gathers country-level data (when available) on the existence of relevant NUPs, dates of formulation, implementation, and monitoring and evaluation (as appropriate) main themes of these policies, the leading ministries and main actors, and, when possible, links to the policy documents.

The Database was developed by UN-Habitat from 2014. National Urban Policies were collected, analyzed for the required information and input into the database. The information on National Urban Policies were then complimented by a range of statistical data, all of which can be useful in order contextualize the policy and can be used also during the development phase of National Urban Policy.

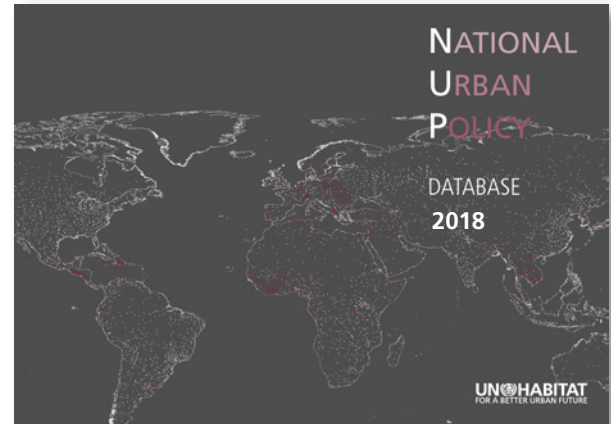
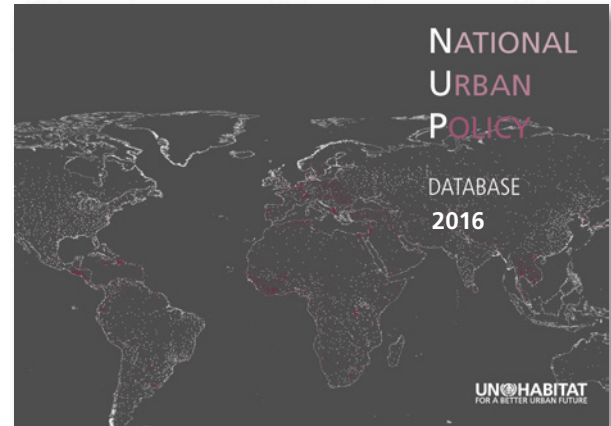
The graphical representation of the Database presents and highlights information found in the Database for each country and is arranged into five global regions: Africa, Asia and the Pacific, Arab States, Latin America and North America and Europe. The database is a living document and will be continuously reviewed and updated in order to remain relevant and up to date.



UN-Habitat, 2016 & 2018

212 pp

Available in: English



## National Urban Policy Feasibility Guide

This feasibility guide is based on research and good practices drawn from countries that have already undertaken the feasibility phase of NUP. This guide comprises of corrective measures and proactive actions that foster economic, social, and environmental sensitive development.

This guide will be extremely useful to policy makers, urban development departments and ministries and civil servants in the NUP process. This guide seeks to assist policy makers build the rationale for a NUP, understand the local political economy and ensure broad consensus for a NUP.

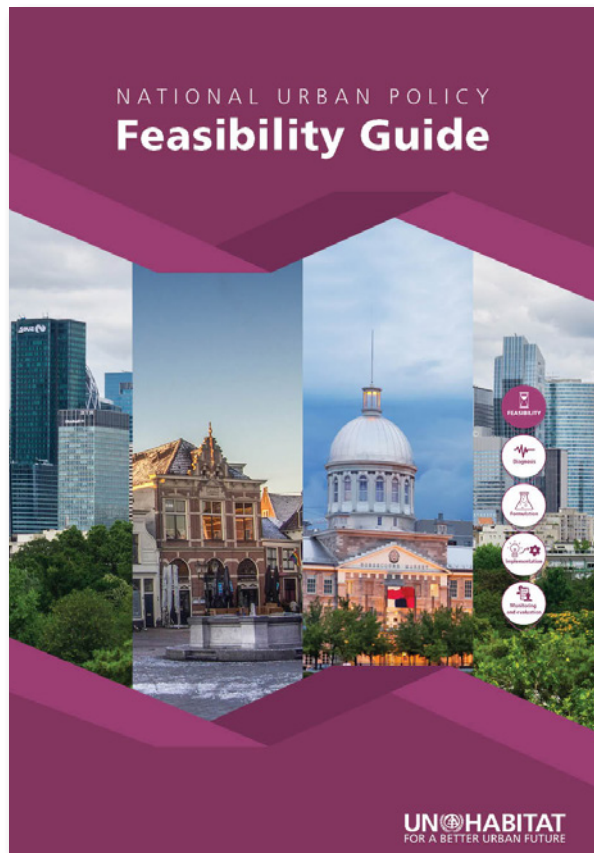


English  
page | 66



Arabic

UN-Habitat, 2018  
**HS Number:** HS/075/18E  
52 pp., 148 x 210 mm



ENG ARB

## A National Urban Policy For Liberia: Discussion Paper

Developing the Liberia National Urban Policy is expected to coordinate the work of different sectors, establish incentives for more sustainable practices, and spur a balanced system of cities and towns through strengthening urban-rural linkages and equitable resource allocation. This will not only help reduce urban and territorial disparities within and among regions, but also promote institutional collaboration and policy coherence towards achievement of the Liberia National 'Vision 2030.'

To initiate development of a National Urban Policy for Liberia, this Discussion Paper, a key output of the feasibility phase, explains the context in which the policy will operate. The paper is the result of a wide range of research and consultations on the demographic, socioeconomic, and physical environment aspects of the country. It also provides preliminary policy recommendations for further analysis in the subsequent NUP development processes. The Paper aims to build consensus with all urban actors on what has been discussed and agreed and to stimulate active support for further diagnostic, policy formulation, implementation, monitoring, and evaluation.

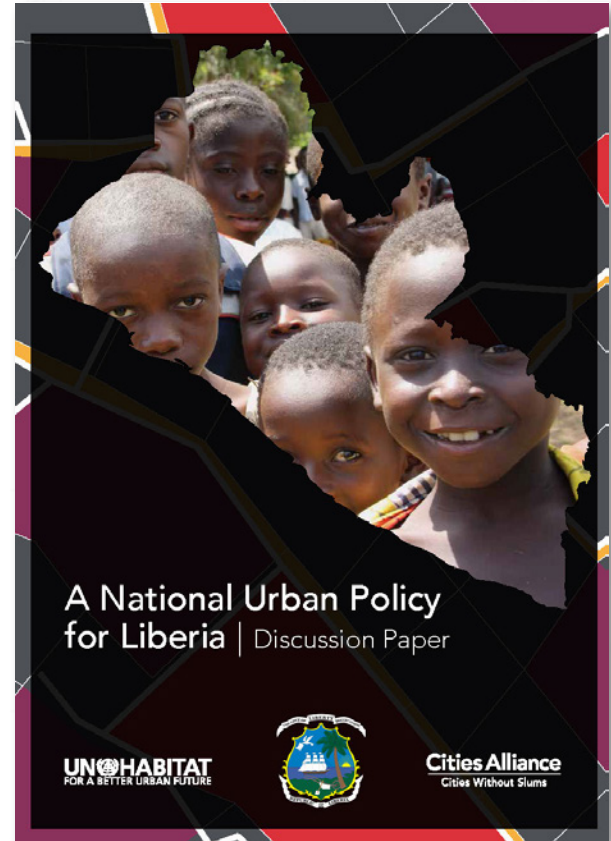


UN-Habitat, 2017

**HS Number:** HS/058/17E

65 pp., 210 x 297 mm

Available in: English



ENG

## Addressing Climate change in National Urban Policy

National Urban Policy is a tool for government and other stakeholders that can assist with achieving more sustainable urban development.

It also facilitates an enabling environment that allows stakeholders to take advantage of urban opportunity. How to address climate change in cities and human settlements represents one of the most pressing challenges facing urban policy-makers today.

This Guide recommends how to mainstream such considerations into National Urban Policy, thus helping to empower national governments, local governments, and other stakeholders to effectively address climate change.



## ADDRESSING CLIMATE CHANGE IN NATIONAL URBAN POLICY

A Policy Guide for Low-Carbon and Climate-Resilient  
Urban Development

CITIES AND CLIMATE CHANGE INITIATIVE  
POLICY NOTE NO. 4



**UNOHABITAT**  
FOR A BETTER URBAN FUTURE

ENG

ARB



English



Arabic

UN-Habitat, 2016  
**HS Number:** 057/16E  
48 pp., 210 x 297 mm

## Review: National Spatial Strategy, Kingdom of Saudi Arabia

The study seeks to provide evidence-based inputs for the review of the National Spatial Strategy (NSS) of the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia (KSA). The methodology is based on three criteria that assesses the content (relevance), process (integration) and results (effectiveness) of the NSS.

The review is informed by lessons learnt from international experiences. Five case studies on national spatial frameworks were analyzed, namely, Republic of Korea, Germany, Malaysia, Morocco and China. The key challenge identified is the insufficient uptake of the NSS due to lack of a coordinated approach as well as lack of awareness.

To increase the uptake of NSS by relevant ministries, utilities and the regions, the study advocates for more dialogue and integration among urban stakeholders across sectors and spatial scales. The development of a fully-fledged National Urban Policy emerges as the way forward to address the root causes of integration challenges faced in NSS uptake and implementation.

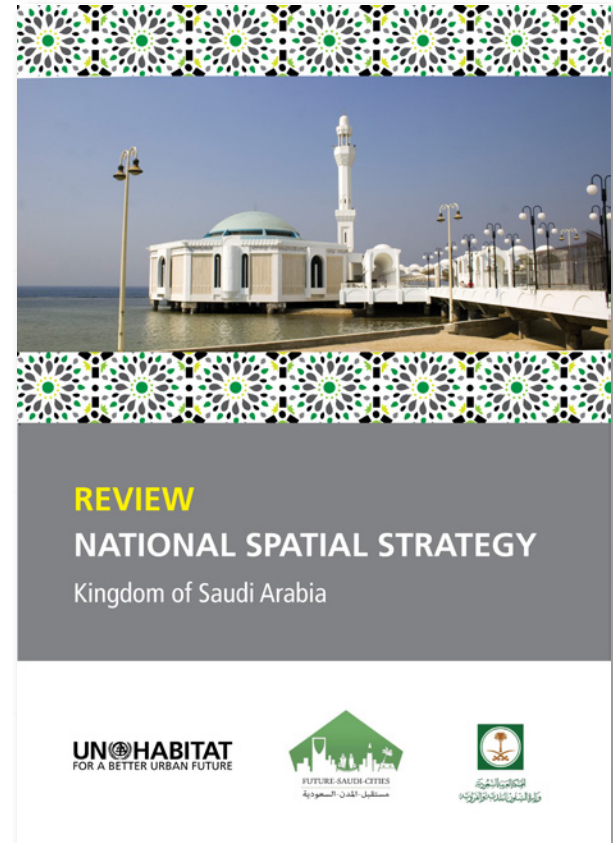


UN-Habitat, Future Saudi Cities & Kingdom of Saudi Arabia (KSA), 2016

**HS Number:** HS/016/16E

76 pp., 210 x 297 mm

Available in: English



ENG

## Lessons: National Spatial Strategy, Kingdom of Saudi Arabia

The study seeks to provide evidence-based inputs for the review of the National Spatial Strategy (NSS) of the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia (KSA). The methodology is based on three criteria that assesses the content (relevance), process (integration) and results (effectiveness) of the NSS.

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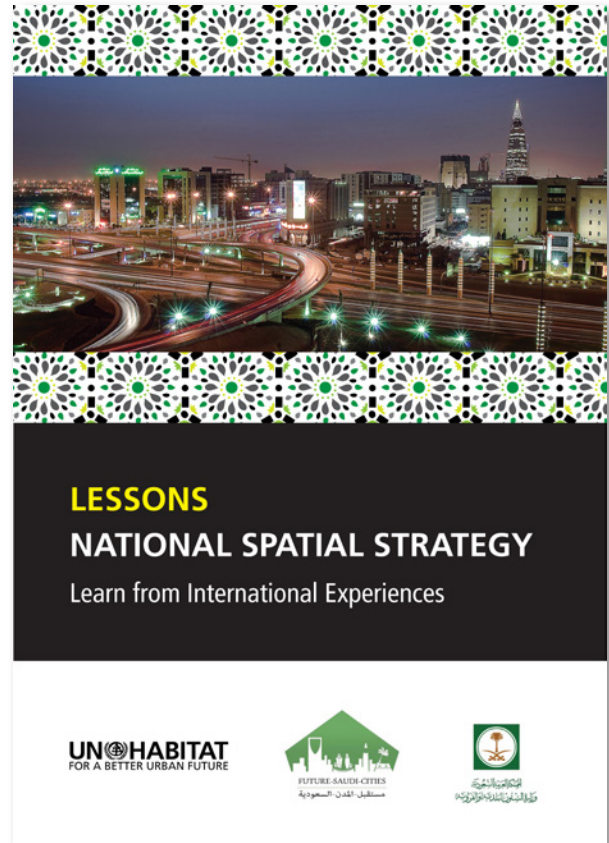


UN-Habitat, Future Saudi Cities & Kingdom of Saudi Arabia (KSA), 2016

**HS Number:** HS/095/15

66 pp., 210 x 297 mm

Available in: English



## Review & Lessons: National Spatial Strategy, Kingdom of Saudi Arabia

The study seeks to provide evidence-based inputs for the review of the National Spatial Strategy (NSS) of the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia (KSA). The methodology is based on three criteria that assesses the content (relevance), process (integration) and results (effectiveness) of the NSS.

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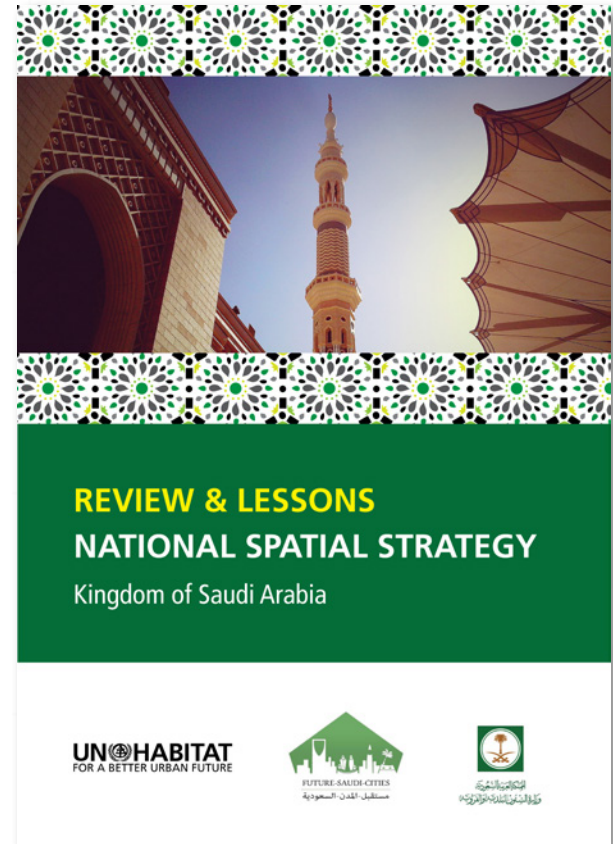


UN-Habitat, Future Saudi Cities & Kingdom of Saudi Arabia (KSA), 2016

**HS Number:** HS/014/16E

140 pp., 210 x 297 mm

Available in: English



ENG



NEW GENERATION OF  
NATIONAL URBAN POLICIES



**UNO**HABITAT  
FOR A BETTER URBAN FUTURE

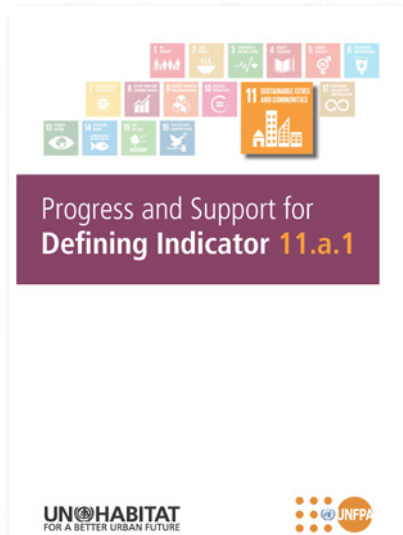


NATIONAL URBAN POLICY:  
FRAMEWORK FOR A RAPID DIAGNOSTIC

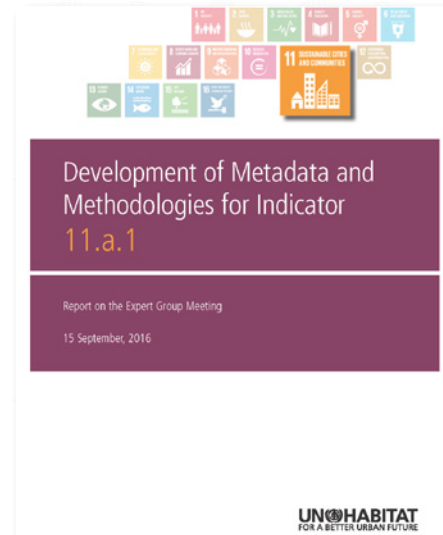


**UNO**HABITAT  
FOR A BETTER URBAN FUTURE

## SDGs and National Urban Policy (NUP)



ENG



ENG



UN-Habitat & UNFPA, 2016

4 pp (Progress and Support for Defining Indicator 11.a.1) | 25 pp (Development of Metadata and Methodologies for Indicator 11.a.1)

Available in: English

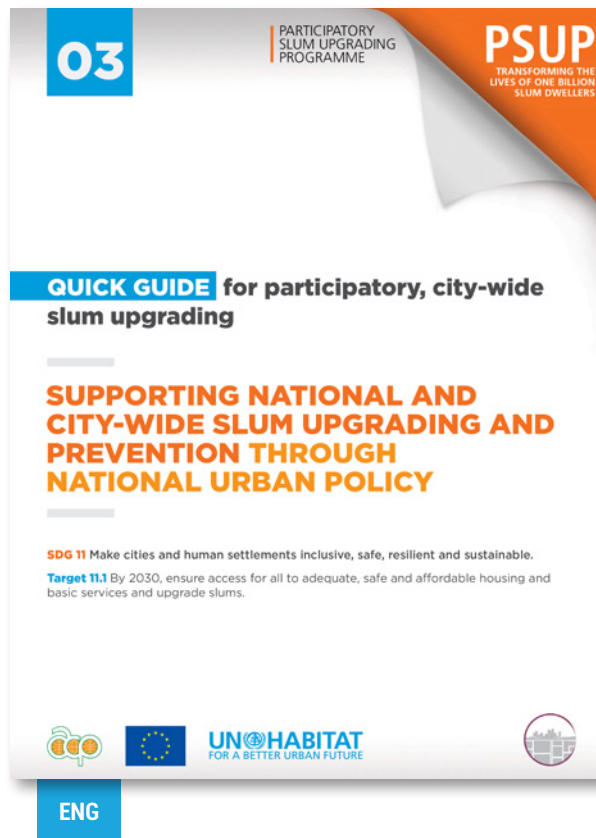
## Supporting National and City-Wide Slum Upgrading and Prevention Through National Urban Policy

This quick guide provides urban decision makers with the key messages and actions as to why a National Urban Policy is an important process and outcome to support improvements to the lives of slum dwellers. In particular, the document outlines how a National Urban Policy supports the development of national and city-wide slum upgrading strategies.

A National Urban Policy can help promote a positive mind-set towards slum dwellers and thus set an inclusive and 'pro-poor' tone for subsequent legislation, regulation and planning frameworks.



UN-Habitat, 2015  
12 pp., 210 x 297 mm  
Available in: English



## National Urban Forum to Support Participatory and Inclusive National Urban Policy

The formulation of a national urban policy should be the first step to ensure that urban growth in the next 20 years is creating prosperity and opportunities for all.

Because urbanization is a multi-stakeholder process, UN-Habitat encourages each country to hold regular National Urban Forums (NUFs), for all actors involved to discuss and advance the urban policy debate.

National Urban Forums have already been established with excellent results in a number of countries creating an enabling environment to promote dialogue and consensus among stakeholders, including national government, local authorities, grass root organizations, private sector and academia among others.

Based on the positive outcomes of past events, UN-Habitat strongly advocates for the consolidation of these multi-stakeholder gatherings into permanent platforms that can substantively contribute and mobilize the necessary support towards improved urban policies and programming.

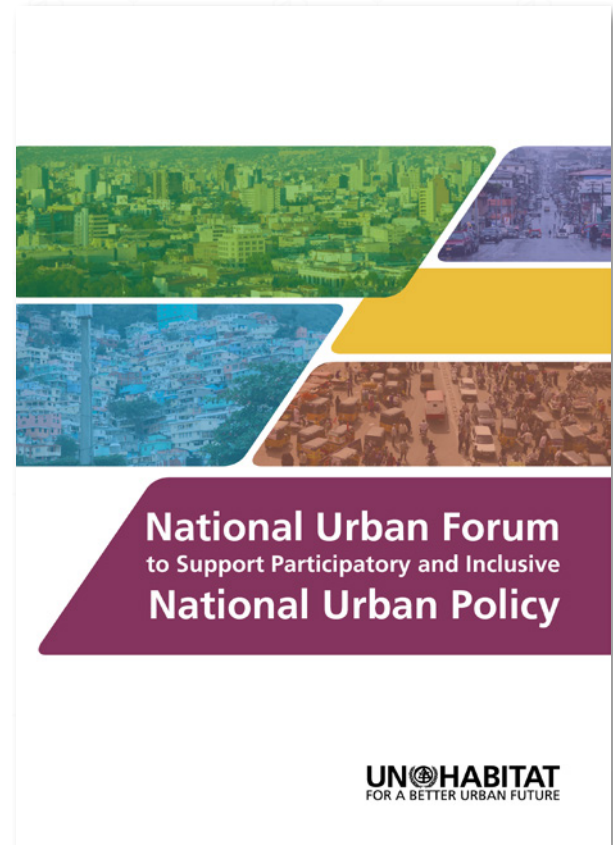


English



Spanish

UN-Habitat, 2015  
8 pp., 210 x 297 mm



ENG

SPA

**UN HABITAT**  
FOR A BETTER URBAN FUTURE

## Policy Note: National Urbanization Policy, Rwanda

Rwanda's urbanization history is quite recent. Since the colonial and post-independence periods, the tendency to promote ruralisation and the confinement of residents into rural areas was the main governmental goal.

This situation has led to a low urban population growth, uncontrolled spatial expansion with little provision of safe, open, public places, and the uncoordinated planning and provision of basic services in urban settlements.

Between 1960 and 2012, the urbanization rate increased from 2 per cent to 16.5 per cent (multiplied by 8.3), while the Gross Domestic Product multiplied by 4.2, moving from USD 1.68 billion to USD 7 billion.

**POLICY NOTE**

**NATIONAL URBANIZATION POLICY**

**RWANDA**

**UN HABITAT**  
FOR A BETTER URBAN FUTURE



UN-Habitat, 2015  
**HS Number:** HS/070/16E  
 32 pp., 210 x 297 mm  
 Available in: English

## The Evolution of National Urban Policies: A Global Overview

More than half of the world's population currently live in cities, and a projected 70 per cent will be living in urban areas by 2050. Urban settlements are growing and will continue to grow whether this is planned or they simply spread.

Much of the way in which cities progress, stagnate or become dysfunctional depends on the extent to which their evolution is planned, coordinated and well-managed. These factors, in turn, depend on the skills, money and political will being available and used in the best possible way to improve the lives of millions of people. The alternative is poor transport networks, insufficient water supplies, public health crises and slum settlements, among other things.



UN-Habitat & Cities Alliance, 2015  
**ISBN Number:** 978-92-1-132674-1  
 96 pp., 210 x 297 mm  
 Available in: English



The Evolution of

# National Urban Policies

A Global Overview

**UN HABITAT**  
FOR A BETTER URBAN FUTURE

**Cities Alliance**  
Cities Without Slums

ENG

## National Urban Policy: Framework for a Rapid Diagnostic

Globally, more people live in urban areas than in rural areas, with 54 per cent of the world's population residing in urban areas in 2014. Continuing population growth and urbanization are projected to add 2.5 billion people to the world's urban population by 2050, with nearly 90 per cent of the increase concentrated in Asia and Africa.

As the world continues to urbanize, sustainable development challenges will be increasingly concentrated in cities, particularly in the lower and middle income countries where the pace of urbanization is fastest.



## NATIONAL URBAN POLICY FRAMEWORK FOR A RAPID DIAGNOSTIC

UN HABITAT  
FOR A BETTER URBAN FUTURE

ENG



UN-Habitat, 2015

**ISBN:** 978-92-1-132691-8

**HS Number:** HS/092/15E

60 pp. Available in: English

## National Urban Policy: A Guiding Framework

This Guiding Framework is designed to outline key elements and instruments of the policy process through all the five NUP phases: feasibility, diagnosis, formulation, implementation and monitoring, and evaluation. Each phase is the subject of one part of the Framework. For each phase, the Framework will recommend perspectives and approaches that can be productive in the development of NUP.

In addition, the Framework will consider the inclusion of the three NUP pillars: participation, capacity development, acupuncture projects and iterative policy design. While it is understood that all policy processes are unique and context-specific, this document will provide a guiding framework, based on research and practical experiences, in order to provide guidance on proceeding through the NUP process.

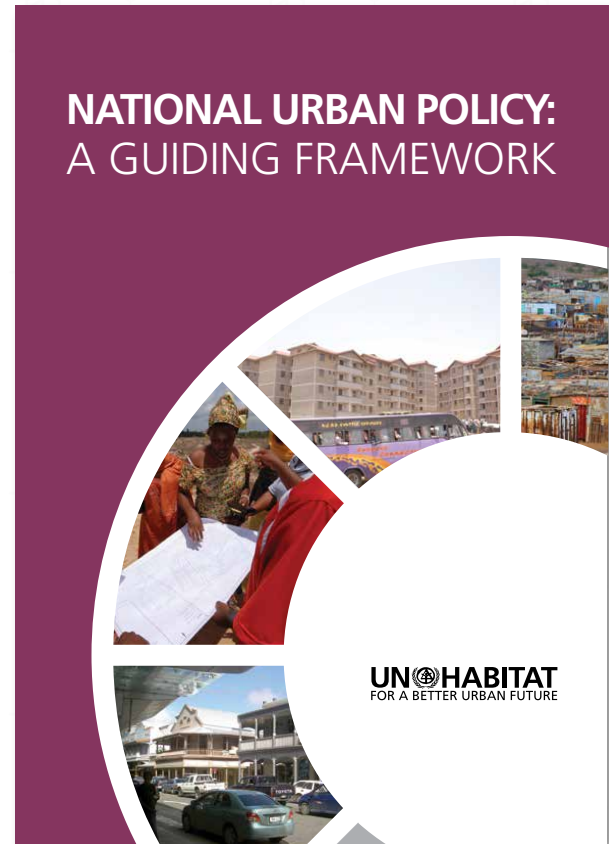


UN-Habitat, 2015

**HS Number:** HS/090/15E

68 pp., 210 x 297 mm

Available in: English



ENG

## Note de Politique Urbaine Nationale du Cameroun

Avec une population urbaine estimée à 54% en 2014, le Cameroun fera face à un défi majeur lié à la croissance accélérée et insuffisamment maîtrisée de sa population et des espaces urbains. Etant donné que plus de 43% de sa population de moins de 14ans, les défis de formation, de loisir et de création d'opportunité d'emploi constitue un enjeu pour le développement durable. Malgré l'abondance les ressources naturelles, le Cameroun affiche par un faible PIB (environ USD1,320 par habitant) en 2013 et une inégalité prononcée dans la distribution des revenus.

Une urbanisation bien orientée et coordonnée pourrait être l'outil fondamental pour placer le Cameroun sur le chemin du développement durable pour au moins les prochaines 30 années. La prévision actuelle du Cameroun est que la population urbaine passera de 11 million d'habitants actuellement à environ 21 million d'habitants, atteignant 65% de la population totale prévue de 50 millions en 2050.



## NOTE DE

## POLITIQUE URBAINE NATIONALE

## DU CAMEROUN

**ONU HABITAT**  
POUR UN MEILLEUR AVENIR URBAIN

FR



UN-Habitat, 2014

**HS Number:** HS/069/16F

36 pp., 210 x 297 mm

Available in: French



## LEGISLATION AND GOVERNANCE

## Urban Law and Governance Newsletter - Volume 2

Note from the Editors

Welcome to the second edition of UN-Habitat's Urban Law and Governance Newsletter!

This newsletter series offers a curated snapshot of recent developments, key tools and knowledge products, partner contributions, and emerging opportunities related to UN-Habitat work on urban law and governance.

This second edition begins with highlights of our recent technical support to countries and cities, events organized and newly released knowledge materials. This includes a think-piece on Egypt's fixed rent dilemma in the partners' and special guest segment. We are also sharing invitations to join us at the 2026 World Urban Forum and International Comparative Urban Law Conference.

Enjoy the read!



ENG



UN-Habitat, 2025  
6 pp.  
Available in: English

## Legislation, Governance and Finance of Public Space

Public spaces are vital for the dynamic social, environmental and health need functions as part of public life of diverse user groups, as they provide areas for social encounter, civic and political engagement, recreation (including work, play and study), shelter needs and other forms of community engagement. This publication has examined the crucial role that legislation, governance, and financial frameworks play as critical aspects of public space management and development. It has provided a detailed analysis of how the above frameworks influence the creation, management and sustainability of public spaces.

This is particularly relevant and useful for many decision-makers and stakeholders since globally, current legislative, governance and financial approaches often fall short of effectively managing public spaces, leading to neglect, deterioration, and ultimately privatization of public space. Thus, by showcasing innovative models to strengthen legal frameworks, improve fiscal resources and enhance governance frameworks, this publication makes a significant contribution to the achievement of SDG 11, especially target 11.7 which aims (by 2030) to deliver universal access to safe, inclusive and accessible, green and public spaces particularly for women and children, older persons and persons with disabilities.

Access the Policy Brief [here](#).

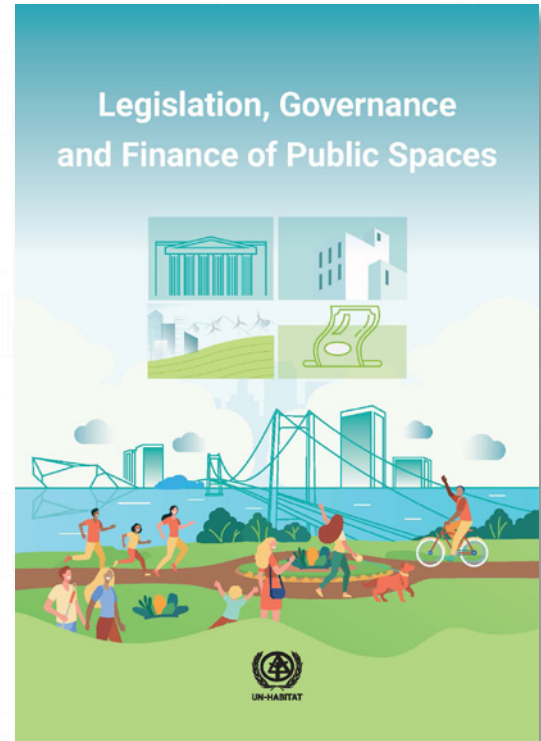


UN-Habitat, 2025

**HS Number 008/25**

90 pp.

Available in: English



ENG

## Urban Law and Governance Newsletter

Note from the Editors

Welcome to the first edition of UN-Habitat’s Urban Law and Governance Newsletter!

This newsletter series aims to offer a curated snapshot of recent developments, key tools and knowledge products, partner contributions, and emerging opportunities related to our work on urban law and governance.

In this inaugural edition, we provide highlights of our recent technical support to countries and cities, share an invitation to the July 2025 IALS–UN-Habitat Urban Law Day, and extend a call for partnerships to pilot the Legal Review for Inclusive and Sustainable Urban Development in your city. You will also find updates on upcoming publications and opportunities to co-develop knowledge products such as UrbanLex.

Enjoy the read!



UN-Habitat, 2025  
 7 pp.  
 Available in: English



ENG

## Housing, Land and Property (HLP)-Sensitive Urban Law: Enhancing urban law to protect HLP across the conflict cycle (Conflict Prevention)

As the world continues to urbanize, cities face greater challenges in responding to humanitarian crises and achieving sustainable post-conflict development that upholds everyone's right to adequate housing. The impacts of conflict are increasingly being experienced in urban areas around the world – as seen in modern crises such as those in Ukraine, the Gaza Strip, Yemen and Syria – putting the housing, land and property (HLP) rights of civilians at risk. HLP issues arise in conflict contexts, but many of the challenges surrounding these issues, such as return, restitution, adjudication and dispute-resolution, can be traced back to tenure insecurity caused by poor governance, chaotic urbanization, weak land administration and inadequate housing law and policy. For this reason, urban law has a critical role to play in preventing conflicts and their collateral impacts on people's access to their HLP. In establishing the legal frameworks for the governance, management and development of urban areas, urban law can strengthen tenure security and reduce the likelihood of land being a root cause or trigger of conflict. As the first publication in the "Urban Law and Conflict Series", this report examines how urban law can support accountable, inclusive and responsive urban governance, spatial planning, land administration and housing law and policy to prevent conflict and mitigate the adverse impacts of conflict on HLP rights.

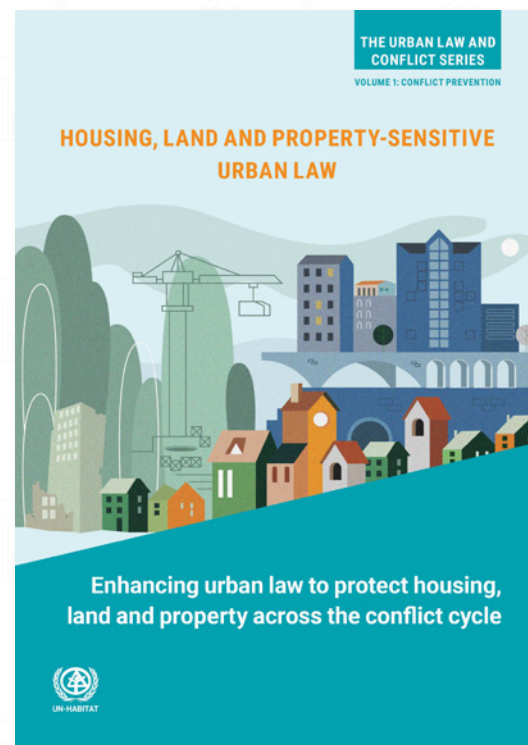


UN-Habitat, 2025

**HS Number HS/093/16E**

139 pp.

Available in: English



ENG

## Comparative Analysis of Non-Profit Housing Legal Frameworks in Five Countries: Austria, Brazil, England, Netherlands, and South Africa: Urban Legal Case Studies, VOLUME 12

More than 1.8 billion people worldwide lack adequate housing and the number of people living in informal settlements has passed a billion. Housing is a fundamental human right and UN-Habitat recognizes its catalyst role in the sustainable development agenda. 'Housing at the centre', a global approach set out by UN-Habitat in 2015, puts people and human rights at the foreground of sustainable urban development policies to leave no one and no place behind. A more coherent and comprehensive framework of affordable housing is necessary to ensure broad access to this necessity of life, one which facilitates cooperation across socio-economic backgrounds and creates shared interests in a safe community, a strong economy, and a vibrant social scene to harness the framework's transformative potential.

The affordable housing solutions generated by the non-profit housing sector provide a novel framework for reforming affordable housing policy and legal frameworks. UN-Habitat has conducted a comparative analysis of the non-profit housing sector in five countries (Austria, Brazil, England, Netherlands, and South Africa), which serve as best practice legal frameworks for a robust and sustainable social housing sector.

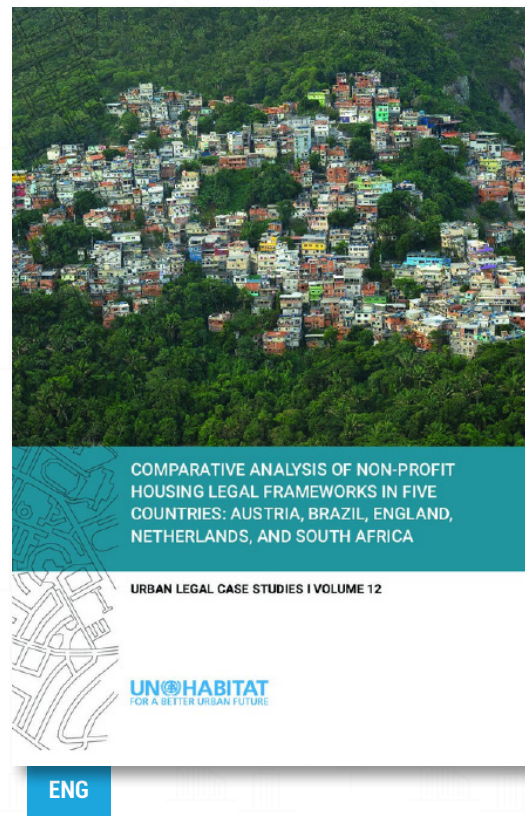


UN-Habitat, 2023

**HS Number** HS/024/23E

164 pp.

Available in: English



## Guidelines For the Scrutiny of the Quality of Urban Legislation: A Manual for Parliamentarians

Urban legislation is an important development tool for urban growth as it provides a framework in which to mediate and balance competing public and private interests, especially in relation to land use and development; creates a stable and predictable framework for public and private sector action; guarantees the inclusion of the interests of vulnerable groups; and provides a catalyst for local and national discourse.

Parliaments are the main branch of government with the constitutional mandate to legislate and adopt legislation. This is a significant privilege, but it is also an important responsibility for parliaments that need to make sure, firstly that they produce legislation of the best possible quality; secondly, that the law is producing the desired results; and thirdly that required action is taken to correct "errors" and improve its effectiveness. What might read like a good urban law before adoption might produce unwanted effects and impacts or might need to be amended to fully respond to needs in reality. Legislative scrutiny is a systematic process that needs to take place throughout the life cycle of legislation.

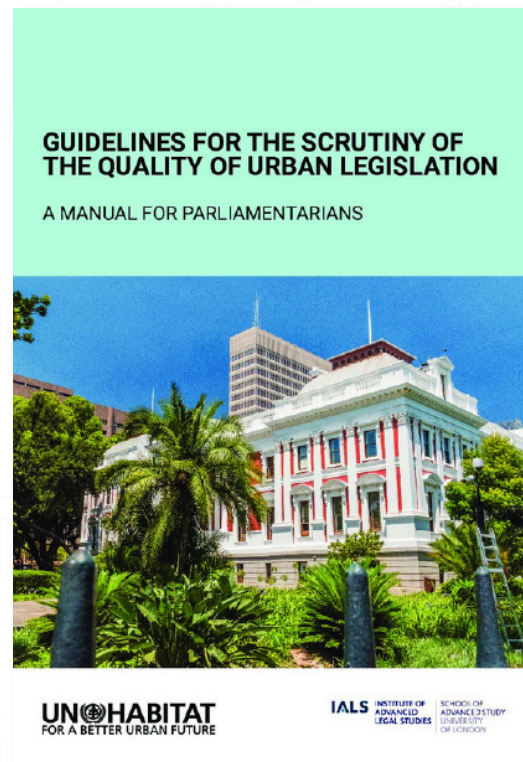


UN-Habitat, 2023

**HS Number** HS/001/23E

65 pp.

Available in: English



ENG

## Comparative Analysis of Housing Acts in Five Countries: Bolivia (Plurinational State of), Botswana, Ethiopia, Nigeria, and South Africa: Urban Legal Case Studies, VOLUME 13

UN-Habitat provides technical assistance and advisory services to member states in legal reform processes to bring about social and economic transformation and enhance effective service delivery for sustainable urban development. Benchmarking case studies and comparative analysis are key aspects of the UN-Habitat methodology for legal and governance reform. UN-Habitat and the Institute of Advanced Legal Studies at the University of London, UK developed this comparative analysis of housing laws to assist the Government of Lesotho to address the increased demand for urban housing, improve residents' quality of life, enhance services accessibility, and improve mobility and security of tenure, while recognizing the environmental impact of climate change.

This comparative analysis report provides an insight into available housing legislative models that are already in use in Bolivia (the Plurinational State of), Botswana, Ethiopia, Nigeria and South Africa. These are countries with similar socioeconomic backgrounds, land availability and environmental constraints and challenges. With a comparative analysis of housing legislation, recommendations have been proposed on the best model available that could be entirely adopted or modified by the Lesotho Government to suit its country's needs and local context.

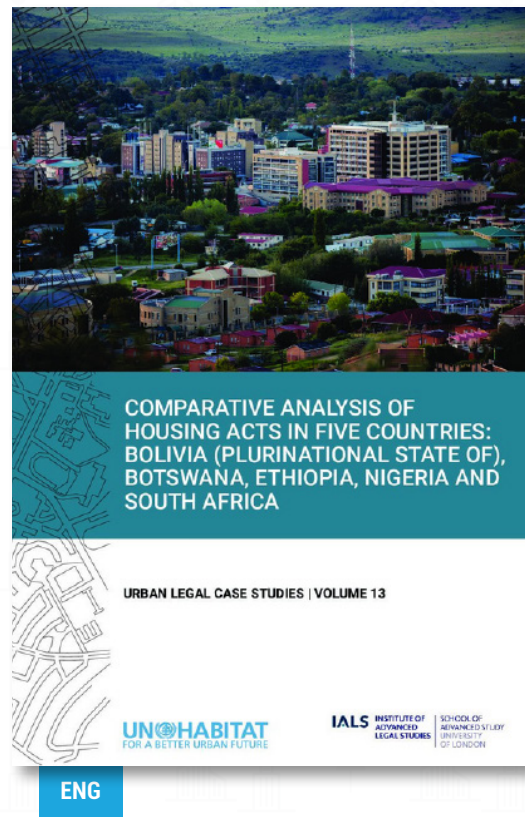


UN-Habitat, 2023

**HS Number** HS/017/23E

94 pp.

Available in: English



## Benchmarking Case Studies on Public Participation in Spatial Planning Processes in Four Countries: Australia, Chile, South Africa and the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland: Urban Governance Case Studies, VOLUME 2

UN-Habitat provides technical assistance and advisory services to member states in legal reform processes to bring about social and economic transformation and enhance effective service delivery for sustainable urban development. Benchmarking case studies and comparative analysis are key aspects of the UN-Habitat methodology for legal and governance reform.

This report showcases benchmarking case studies on public participation in four countries prepared for the project "Strengthening the Urban Planning Legal and Institutional Frameworks in the Sultanate of Oman". It includes a comparative analysis of best practices for meaningful public participation in spatial planning to make urban development more inclusive, equitable, sustainable, active and meaningful.



UN-Habitat, 2023

**HS Number** HS/023/23E

180 pp.

Available in: English



BENCHMARKING CASE STUDIES ON PUBLIC PARTICIPATION IN SPATIAL PLANNING PROCESSES IN FOUR COUNTRIES:

AUSTRALIA, CHILE, SOUTH AFRICA AND THE UNITED KINGDOM OF GREAT BRITAIN AND NORTHERN IRELAND

URBAN GOVERNANCE CASE STUDIES | VOLUME 2

**UN HABITAT**  
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ENG

## Enabling Meaningful Public Participation in Spatial Planning Processes

The Sustainable Development Goals and New Urban Agenda emphasize the need for inclusive and collaborative governance in spatial planning processes. Thus, rather than advocating for a technocratic and normative model of spatial planning based on standards and regulations, the Goals and the New Urban Agenda refer to spatial planning as a multi-stakeholder decision-making process during which participation is a key governance feature to reach sustainable development.

This toolkit on Enabling Meaningful Public Participation in Spatial Planning Processes has demonstrated that there is no “one-size-fits-all” approach to public participation. The toolkit features a step-by-step process perspective on how to engage the public and civil society and has a series of mechanisms that can be adapted and aggregated in the form of policy mixes that can better suit the local context, the stage of the process and the available resources. More importantly, rather than using participation as a “symbolic gesture”, with little transformative impact on urban governance structures and systems, it is recommended to foster the empowerment and autonomy of social movements and local stakeholders and entrust citizens and residents with real decision-making powers.



UN-Habitat, 2023  
**HS Number** HS/002/23E  
 85 pp.  
 Available in: English

## ENABLING MEANINGFUL PUBLIC PARTICIPATION IN SPATIAL PLANNING PROCESSES



**UN HABITAT**  
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ENG

## COP 28 Event Report-Advancing Climate Action Through Urban Law

COP 28 refers to the United Nations Climate Change Conference taking place in Dubai, United Arab Emirates, from 30 November until 12 December 2023.

UN Climate Change conferences (or COPs) take place every year, and are the world's only multilateral decision-making forum on climate change with almost complete membership of every country in the world. To put it simply, the COP is where the world comes together to agree on ways to address the climate crisis, such as limiting global temperature rise to 1.5 degrees Celsius, helping vulnerable communities adapt to the effects of climate change, and achieving net-zero emissions by 2050.

[Read more](#)



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



**COP28  
UAE  
EVENT  
REPORT**

### Advancing Climate Action through Urban Law

**Gianluca Crispi (UNFCCC) – Opening remarks**

Climate change is the biggest threat humanity has ever faced. Rise in temperature due to human-induced greenhouse gas effects is having detrimental impacts on our environment, geography, communities, and threatens global peace and stability. Current global emissions are not in line with the temperature goal of the Paris agreement of 1.5 degrees Celsius. The timeframe to reach this goal is quickly running out. The latest synthesis report published by UNFCCC in November analyzes the Nationally Determined Contributions (NDCs) of the 195 parties to the Paris agreement and finds that the NDCs remain insufficient to limit global temperature rise.

But it's not too late, the IPCC also clearly demonstrates that it is still possible to limit global warming with rapid emission reductions across all sectors of the global economy. Many effective and feasible low-cost mitigation and adaptation options exist to scale up progress across sectors and countries. We have achieved a lot in the past 30 years to address climate action and have set up a clear infrastructure to address global climate change. Now it's time to put this infrastructure to use and move from negotiations to implementation.

That means developing increasingly ambitious NDCs capable of achieving the goals of the Paris agreement. It means aligning legislation, regulation, policies and programs to the objectives of countries' NDCs.

This year's COP will feature the first global stocktake. It's the combination of a two-year long process which included the input from countries, businesses, cities and civil society. It will be a crucial opportunity to address the progress made so far and the progress that still needs to be made. The global stocktake is a key pillar of the Paris agreement. It takes place every five years, and it has the key role of informing the next cycle of NDCs and of stimulating ambition by assessing the collective progress towards the objectives of the Paris agreement.

The stocktake needs to be more than another synthesis report. Countries must use this moment to agree and to understand how we can increase our ambition. Setting up ambitious NDCs will be key, but it will not be enough. Countries will have to implement those NDCs at a national level through climate governance systems.

1 | QUALITY OF PRACTICE GUIDANCE

ENG



## A Comparative Analysis of Urban Governance for Planning in 10 Countries of the Global South: Urban Governance Case Studies, Volume1

UN-Habitat supports cities and countries all over the world to strengthen governance by improving the coordination and transparency of institutional frameworks; empowering representatives of urban stakeholders and constituencies through inclusive sound institutions and mechanisms; and providing predictability and coherence in urban development plans to enable social inclusion, sustained, inclusive and sustainable economic growth, and environmental protection.

The rationale being that the quality of urban governance is the most important factor for the eradication of poverty and for prosperous cities. UN-Habitat's Strategic Plan 2020-2023 states that urban and territorial planning and design must be a central component of the renewed urban governance paradigm, which promotes local democracy, participation, inclusion, and transparency to ensure sustainable urbanization and spatial quality.



UN-Habitat, 2023

**HS Number** HS/045/23E

218 pp.

Available in: English



### A COMPARATIVE ANALYSIS OF URBAN GOVERNANCE FOR PLANNING IN 10 COUNTRIES OF THE GLOBAL SOUTH

URBAN GOVERNANCE CASE STUDIES | VOLUME 1



ENG

## Child-responsive urban policies, laws and standards: a guidance

UN-Habitat and the United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF) have developed this Guidance on Child-Responsive Urban Policies, Laws and Standards to support governments at all levels to create urban spaces where children can access basic services, clean air and water; where children feel safe to play, learn and grow, which includes ensuring their voices are heard and their needs are integrated into public policies and decision-making processes.

The guidance highlights the important role that policy and legislation play as drivers of change; they set normative standards and minimum expectations for duty-bearers in all aspects of children's life, survival and development. Hence, the rights and interests of children in the urban context should be considered and mainstreamed in planning, financing, administrative and structural reforms at all levels of government, including at the local level.

Thus, this tool contains a succinct but comprehensive summary of the best practices, country-specific, practical examples, including a set of global child-rights frameworks that are necessary to grant children equal value and to guarantee them the necessary protection and opportunities for participation.

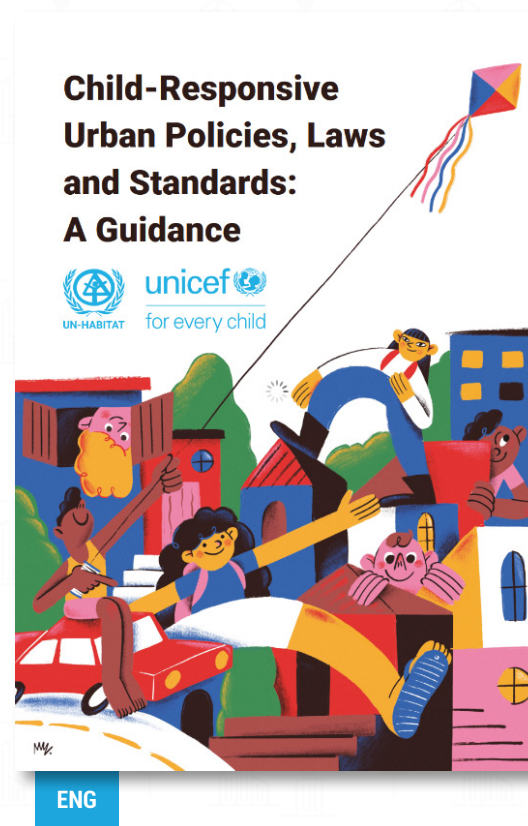


UN-Habitat, 2023

**HS Number** HS/051/23E

76 pp.

Available in: English



## Benchmarking Case Studies on Planning Laws in Five Countries: Morocco, Netherlands, South Africa, Republic of Korea, and The United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland

Through this international benchmarking case study on planning laws in five countries (Morocco, Netherlands, South Africa, Republic of Korea and the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland), UN-Habitat has assessed the impact of these urban laws on sustainable urban development to provide a spectrum of regulatory models and schemes for the spatial planning legal reform in the Sultanate of Oman.

These case studies reveal that planning legal framework should clearly define planning objectives for each level of planning which is part of sound policymaking to articulate the scope of the planning instrument as well as an opportunity to reflect the local needs and challenges. Additionally, for smooth implementation, planning laws should promote coordination between institutions at the national level with institutions at the regional and local levels for the planning, implementation, approval and oversight of development projects, plans and documents.



UN-Habitat, 2023

**HS Number** HS/059/21E

249 pp.

Available in: English



ENG

## Multi-Level Governance for Effective Urban Climate Action in the Global South

As recognized by the Paris Agreement, cities play an important role to mitigate and adapt to climate change as cities can mobilize strong and ambitious climate action. To ensure effective climate action, multi-level governance is essential as it calls for all state and non-State actors to act on climate change.

Multilevelgovernance holds immense power to assist urban areas in the Global South to enhance their resilience and grow in climate-friendly ways. It is in appreciation of the important role of multi-level governance that this guide has been developed to offer an understanding on how to improve horizontal and vertical coordination among different levels of government as well as leveraging the contributions of non-State actors such as the private sector, civil societies, community organizations, and academia, among others, in the Global South.

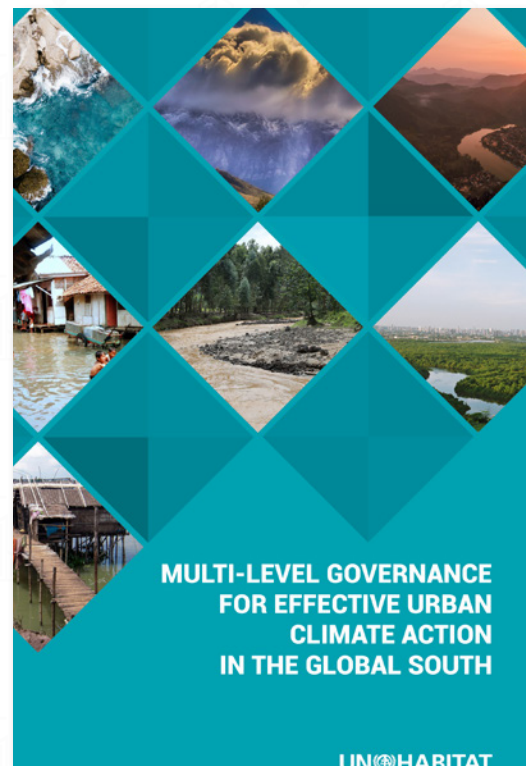


UN-Habitat, 2022

**HS Number** HS/046/21E

63 pp.

Available in: English



ENG

## Leverage the Potential of Youth, Innovation and Technologies for a Better Urban Future

This report aims to show the relevance of innovative approaches to overcome challenges facing by cities by leveraging the potential of young people and technologies through urban governance labs in order to build more inclusive, resilient, and sustainable cities.

By starting with a brief overview of the notion of urban governance, this report will present the idea behind the urban governance laboratories, their relevance, and how they can contribute to building better cities for everyone. A focus will also be made on the first experience of this lab which is the Cameroon urban governance lab studio.



UN-Habitat, 2022  
33 pp.  
Available in: English



## Slum Upgrading Legal Assessment Tool

The Slum Upgrading Legal Assessment Tool is a diagnostic self-assessment legal tool to identify, in a structured, objective, and systematic way, the strengths and weaknesses of the regulatory framework made up of all legislation and regulations enacted at different levels and in force in a country. It is designed to be used either alone or, ideally, in the context of a broader law reform method that begins with issue identification and legal mapping and moves all the way through to recommendations for reform.

It is a useful tool to guide the process to agree on actions that are needed to address the identified gaps. The assessment tool uses an indicative approach, relying on a limited number of indicators in each of its five thematic areas: land, planning, basic services, housing, and financing. While it produces what appear to be quantitative outputs, these are built on a primarily qualitative analysis that is designed as a framework to catalyse discussion in a national or local context and not as a means of ranking.

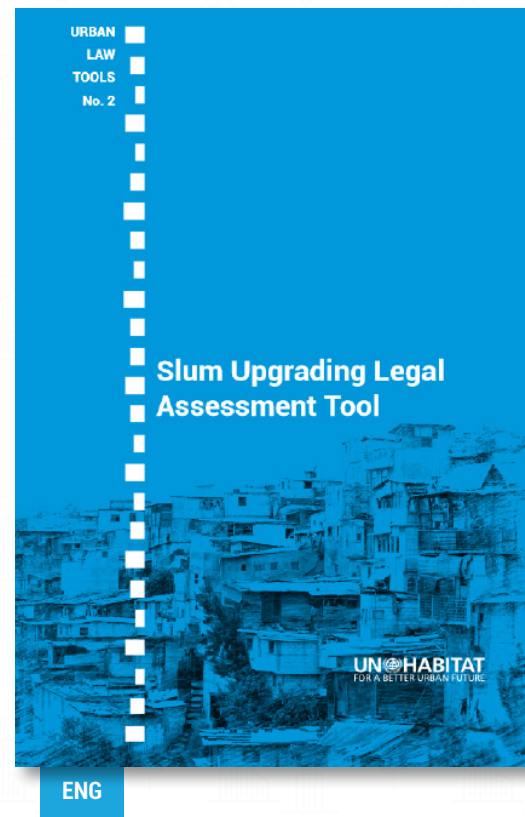


UN-Habitat, 2022

**HS Number** HS/005/22E

71 pp.

Available in: English



ENG

## Urban Planning Law for Climate Smart Cities: The Urban Law Module of the Law and Climate Change Toolkit

Urban areas account for two thirds of greenhouse gas emissions and energy consumption, making them major contributors to climate change. Cities are already suffering from extreme weather events, flooding, subsidence, storms, heat waves, water scarcity, droughts, and sea-level rise, among other climate change effects. Additionally, the laws, institutions, and policies governing urban planning in cities have unintended effects on their capacity to adapt to the changing climate and promote urban forms that increase GHG emissions.

To address this gap, UN-Habitat is pleased to have collaborated with the Commonwealth Secretariat, the United Nations Environment Programme, and the UNFCCC Secretariat in developing the Urban Law Module of the Law and Climate Change Toolkit – an innovative online tool designed to help countries establish legal frameworks necessary for effective domestic implementation of the Paris Agreement – to which this publication on Urban Planning Law for Climate Smart Cities is a guide on. It is hoped that this publication, together with the online version of the Toolkit, will be instrumental in fulfilling the potential of urban areas to lead the way and be truly transformative spaces for climate action.

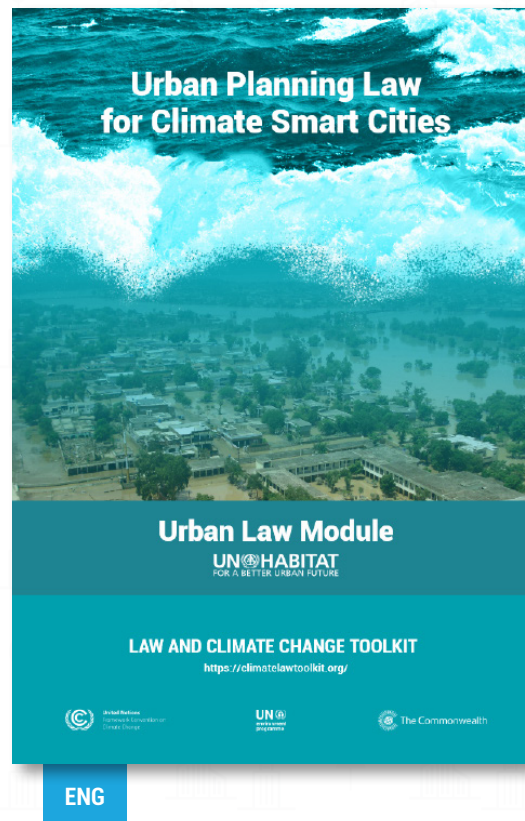


UN-Habitat, UNFCC & The Commonwealth, 2022

**HS Number** HS/018/22E

63 pp.

Available in: English



## Urban Law in Colombia - Urban Legal Case Study 5

The Colombian legal-urban framework is a robust and complex structure of tools that seek to meet land's "social and ecological function", defined by Colombia's 1991 Constitution. It has become a renowned example in Latin America, as it introduces many different principles and tools that other countries in the region had not implemented or utilized.

The strengthening of urban development and territorial planning as key elements in the overall development of Colombia has led to the creation of strong and renovated institutions, which seek to manage, coordinate, and control the new principles and tools for territorial development.



UN-Habitat, 2022

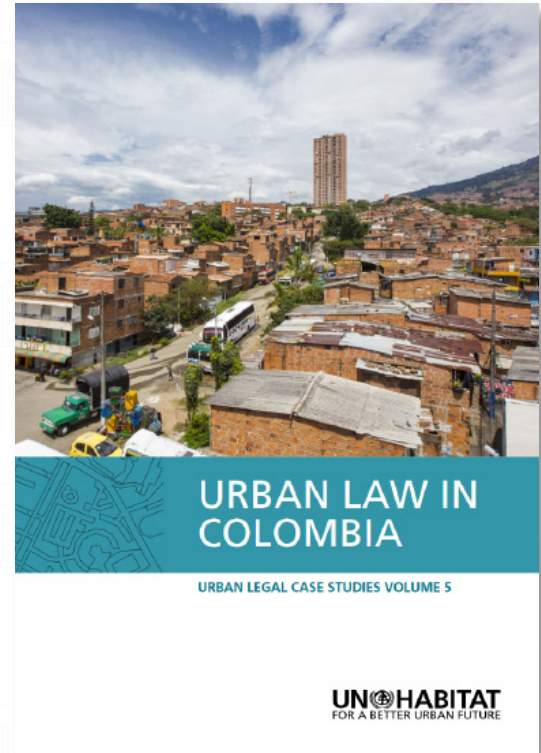
**HS Number:** HS/057/18E

**ISBN Number(Series):** 978-92-1-133365-7

**ISBN Number:(Volume)** 978-92-1-132809-7

188 pp.

Available in: English



ENG

## Assessment of Zimbabwe Legislation through the Urban Law Module of the Law and Climate Change Toolkit SUMMARY REPORT

UN-Habitat, the Konrad-Adenauer-Stiftung Regional Programme Energy Security and Climate Change in Sub-Saharan Africa (KAS), and the University of Michigan (United States of America), through the project on Urban Law for Resilient and Low Carbon Urban Development in Malawi, Namibia, and Zimbabwe, were able to assess the capacity of climate laws and policies in Zimbabwe to adapt to climate change. The assessment was done through the UN-Habitat Urban Law Module of the Law and Climate Change Toolkit – an innovative online tool designed to help countries establish legal frameworks necessary for effective domestic implementation of the Paris Agreement.

This was based on the five key performance indicators namely: i) governance framework for urban and climate planning; ii) urban and territorial planning; iii) urban planning and design for adaptation; iv) urban planning and design for mitigation; and v) economic and non-economic instruments for climate friendly urban planning. It is hoped that this assessment and the impending climate law reform will be instrumental in fulfilling the potential of urban areas in Zimbabwe to lead the way and be truly transformative spaces for climate action. In addition to this full report, UN-Habitat has produced a shorter version of the full report (summary report) that contains key points and recommendations from the sections mentioned above.

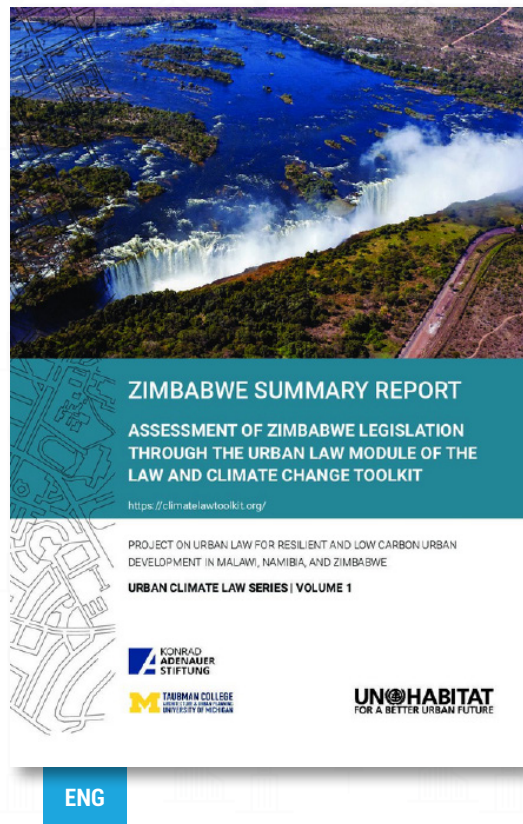


UN-Habitat, 2022

**HS Number** HS/040/22E

34 pp.

Available in: English



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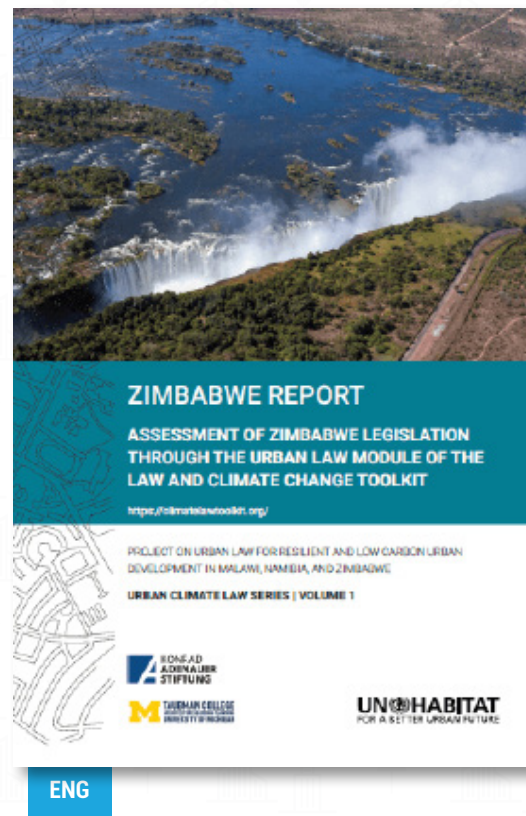


UN-Habitat, 2022

**HS Number** HS/039/22E

114 pp.

Available in: English



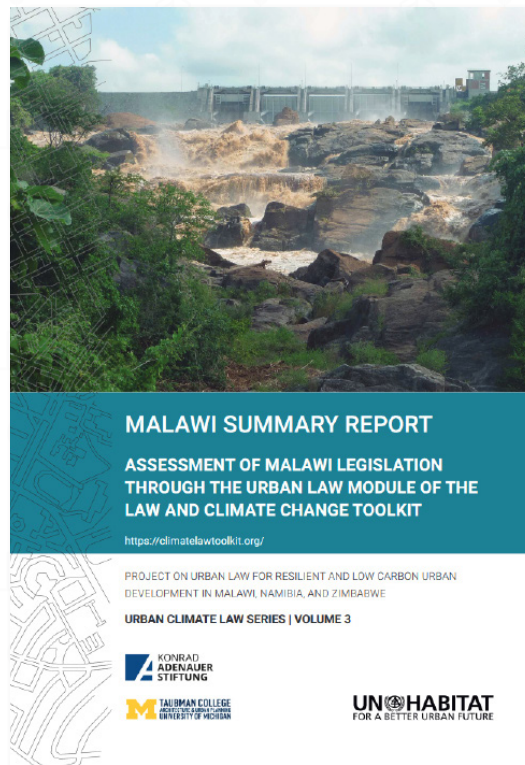
## Assessment of Malawi Legislation through the Urban Law Module of the Law and Climate Change Toolkit SUMMARY REPORT

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UN-Habitat, 2022  
**HS Number** HS/043/22E  
 32 pp.  
 Available in: English



ENG

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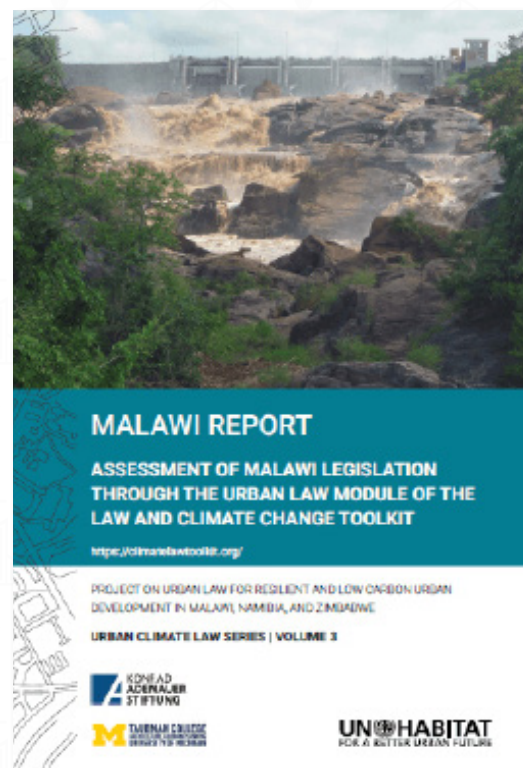


UN-Habitat, 2022

**HS Number** HS/042/22E

108 pp.

Available in: English



ENG

## Assessment of Namibia Legislation through the Urban Law Module of the Law and Climate Change Toolkit FULL REPORT

UN-Habitat, the Konrad-Adenauer-Stiftung Regional Programme Energy Security and Climate Change in Sub-Saharan Africa (KAS), and the University of Michigan (United States of America), through the project on Urban Law for Resilient and Low Carbon Urban Development in Malawi, Namibia, and Zimbabwe, were able to assess the capacity of climate laws and policies in Namibia to adapt to climate change.

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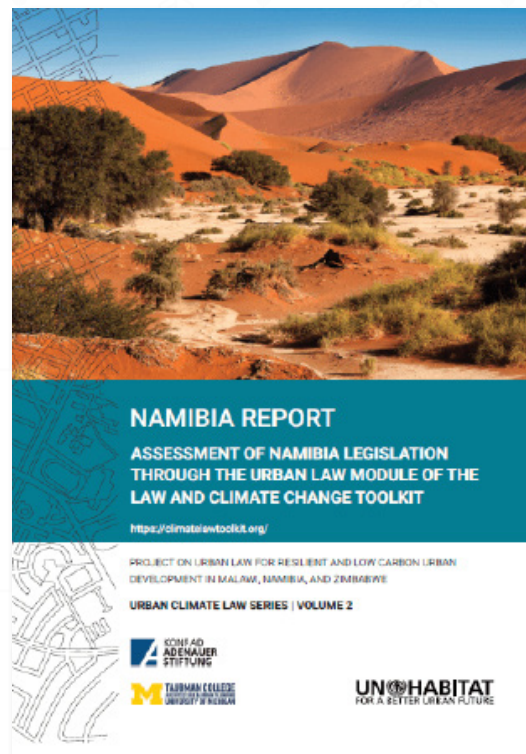


UN-Habitat, 2022

**HS Number** HS/044/22E

100 pp.

Available in: English



ENG

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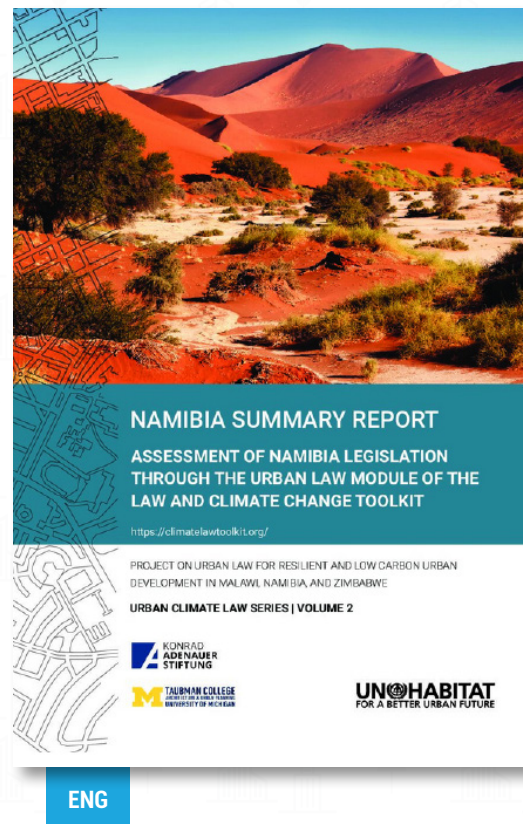


UN-Habitat, 2022

**HS Number** HS/045/22E

30 pp.

Available in: English



## Cities and Pandemics towards a more just green and healthy future

From the early days of the pandemic, cities have been on the frontline of COVID-19. The spread of the virus globally through travel, trade and mobility meant that a large number of the first detected infections appeared in urban areas, prompting many to question their future. Yet in the months that followed, as the challenges of the pandemic have evolved, so too has our understanding of the disease and its complex relationship with cities. Cities and Pandemics: Towards a More Just, Green and Healthy Future presents an overview of the situation to date and outlines a range of bold measures that could deliver a lasting and sustainable recovery from the current crisis. While COVID-19 continues to produce painful lessons on the shortcomings and failures of many cities to protect their own citizens, it also points the way forward for a better, more sustainable urban future.

Some of the most effective responses to the pandemic have been designed and led by cities, building on their ability to concentrate knowledge, resources and infrastructure. From enhanced service provision to the repurposing of local economies to meet the changing needs of residents, urban areas have demonstrated a remarkable capacity for adaptation in the face of this crisis. Moving from a mindset of emergency to recovery, cities have the opportunity to continue to focus on strengthening public health, economic resilience and service access for all. The longstanding divisions and inequalities highlighted by the pandemic mean that a return to normality is no longer enough: what is needed now is transformative change. With inclusive policies, community engagement and a meaningful transition to a more sustainable approach, cities could emerge from the catastrophe of COVID-19 stronger and more resilient than before.



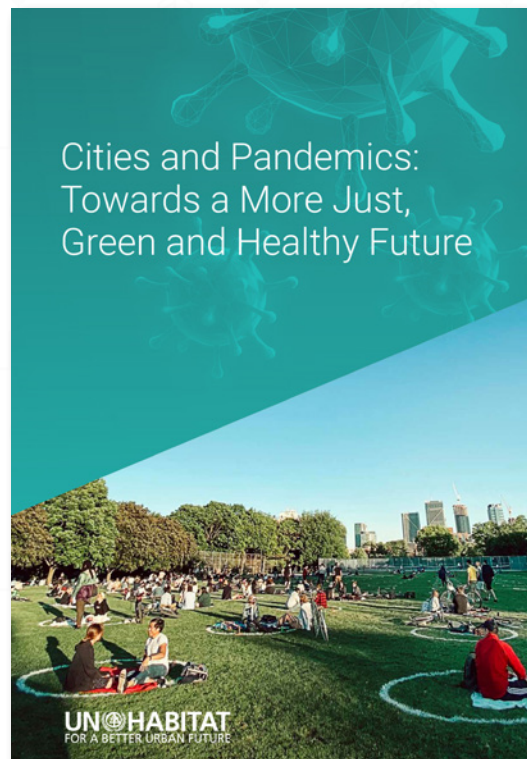
UN-Habitat, 2021

**HS Number** HS/058/20E

**ISBN Number** 978-92-1-132877-6

194 pp.

Available in: English



ENG

## A Guide: Leveraging Multi-Level Governance Approaches to Promote Health Equity

UN-Habitat works in over 90 countries to promote transformative change in cities and human settlements through knowledge, policy advice, technical assistance, and collaborative action.

This guide provides support to Member countries and local authorities to improve the vertical and horizontal linkages between government institutions and among non-state actors, and to promote health equity in governance at all levels (national, regional and local) for sustainable urban development.



UN-Habitat, 2021

**HS Number** HS/032/21E

65 pp.

Available in: English



LEVERAGING MULTI-LEVEL GOVERNANCE  
APPROACHES TO PROMOTE HEALTH EQUITY  
A GUIDE

UN HABITAT  
FOR A BETTER URBAN FUTURE

ENG

## Rent Regulations in Kenya, Lagos-Nigeria, Botswana and South Africa: A Comparative Analysis - Urban Legal Case Studies, Volume 9

Rent regulation is a system of laws controlling rents and tenant evictions aimed at ensuring that rentals are affordable. It reduces both the incidence and fear of homelessness by setting substantive and procedural guidelines to control increases in rent and tenant evictions, thereby preventing landlords from profiting from rental shortages and enabling tenants to remain in existing rentals.

This document examines the legal framework regulating the urban landlord and tenant relationship in Botswana, Kenya, Lagos State- Nigeria, and South Africa. It is not an essay on the ideology of rent regulation, but rather an examination of legislation those states enacted for regulating tenancies to identify what rules may be included in a comprehensive rent regulating regime that promotes security of tenure and affordable rental housing for the urban poor.

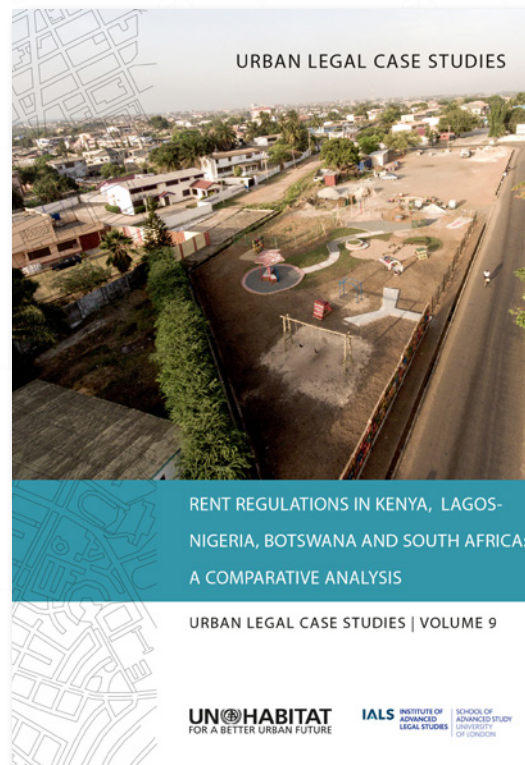


UN-Habitat, 2020

39 pp.

**HS Number:** HS/057/19E

Available in: English



ENG

## Effectiveness Of Planning Law in Land-Rich Developed Countries: Urban Legal Case Studies | Volume 10

UN-Habitat has conducted an objective, evidence-based assessment on the application of physical planning laws in 18 cities of the Land-Rich Developed Countries Region.

The selection of cities is based on the UN Global Sample of 200 cities as a statistically and regionally representative dataset. The study considers whether the law is being applied as written and informs the discussion on the effectiveness of legislative design.

This publication portrays the findings from the study with empirical data on growth boundaries, population density, compliance with spatial planning and zoning, land management and staffing capacity.

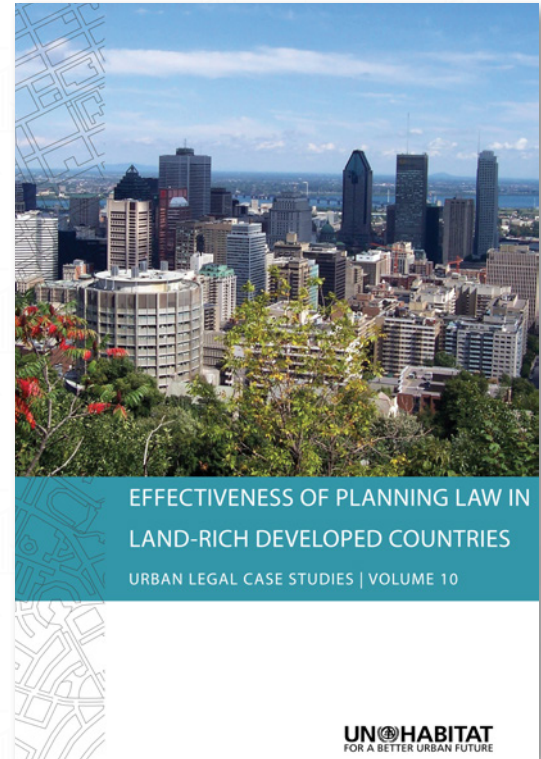
City managers in Land-Rich Developed Countries can use this information to rethink the sustainability of their urbanization model and to help them create systems that can result in equity, shared prosperity and environmental sustainability. These are key principles embodied under the New Urban Agenda and the 17 Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) – particularly Goal 11.



UN-Habitat, 2020

**HS Number:** HS/010/20E

129 pp. Available in: English



ENG

## Human rights, rule of law and the New Urban Agenda: Urban Legal Case Studies | Volume 11

This publication seeks to assess the impact of legal frameworks within the urban context using international Human Rights standards and the New Urban Agenda as the starting point. It examines six key development areas that UN-Habitat focuses on which are also where the potency of the law on Human Rights is greatest.

These areas are Land, Urban Planning, Urban Economy, Housing, Basic Services and Urban Governance. The intention is to identify the points within urban legal frameworks where the enjoyment of Human Rights is undermined either through the substance of the law or through the overall manner in which the legal regime is structured. Proposals for reform are also suggested in line with the Agenda's commitment to "leave no one behind."

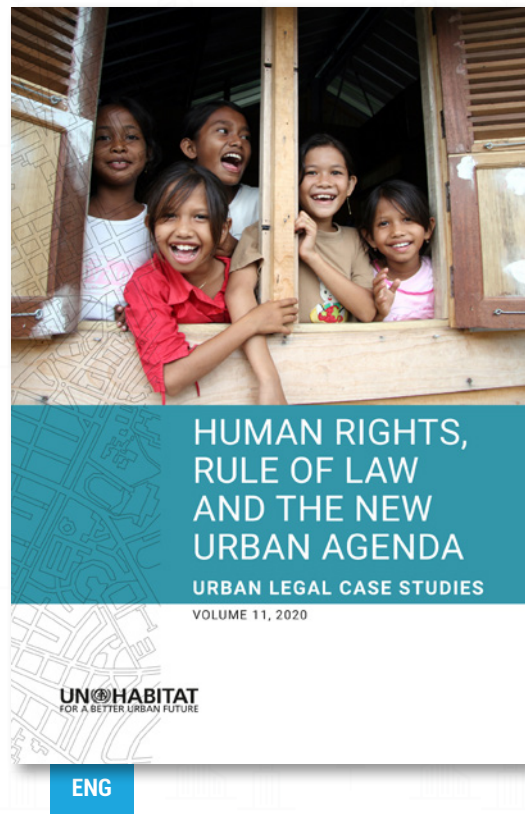


UN-Habitat, 2020

90 pp.

**HS Number:** HS/012/20E

Available in: English



## Law and the New Urban Agenda

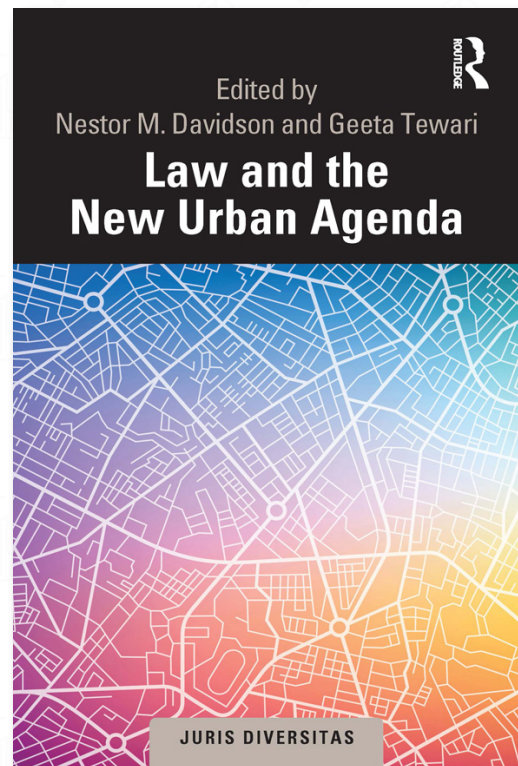
The New Urban Agenda (NUA), adopted in 2016 at the United Nations Conference on Housing and Sustainable Urban Development (Habitat III) in Quito, Ecuador, represents a globally shared understanding of the vital link between urbanization and a sustainable future. At the heart of this new vision stand a myriad of legal challenges – and opportunities – that must be confronted for the world to make good on the NUA's promise.

In response, this book, which complements and expands on the editors' previous volumes on urban law in this series, offers a constructive and critical evaluation of the legal dimensions of the NUA. As the volume's authors make clear, from natural disasters and resulting urban migration in Honshu and Tacloban, to innovative collaborative governance in Barcelona and Turin, to accessibility of public space for informal workers in New Delhi and Accra, and power scales among Brazil's metropolitan regions, there is a deep urgency for thoughtful research to understand how law can be harnessed to advance the NUA's global mission of sustainable urbanism.

It thus creates a provocative and academic dialogue about the legal effects of the NUA, which will be of interest to academics and researchers with an interest in urban studies.



Routledge, May 6, 2020  
**ISBN** 9780367188733  
 226 pp. Available in: English



ENG

## Governance Assessment Framework for Metropolitan Territorial and Regional Management (GAF-MTR)

The Governance Assessment Framework for Metropolitan, Territorial and Regional Management (GAF-MTR) and its two-step assessment tools present an analytical and practical vision of governance. They propose the understanding of governance as a complex process in which institutional solutions, decision-making and collective action must work together. Furthermore, the GAF-MTR defines governance factors that, when properly managed and improved, serve to enable and advance territorial management from supra-municipal scales.

The GAF-MTR draws from inspiring practices on the establishment of institutional and decision-making arrangements for territorial management at supra-municipal scales. Case studies include Valle de Aburrá in Colombia; San Salvador; Montreal in Canada; London; Barcelona in Spain; Bratislava; Johannesburg in South Africa; and Singapore. These examples show how to provide integrative territorial governance frameworks involving fit-for-purpose institutional solutions, representative decision-making processes and collective actions.



English

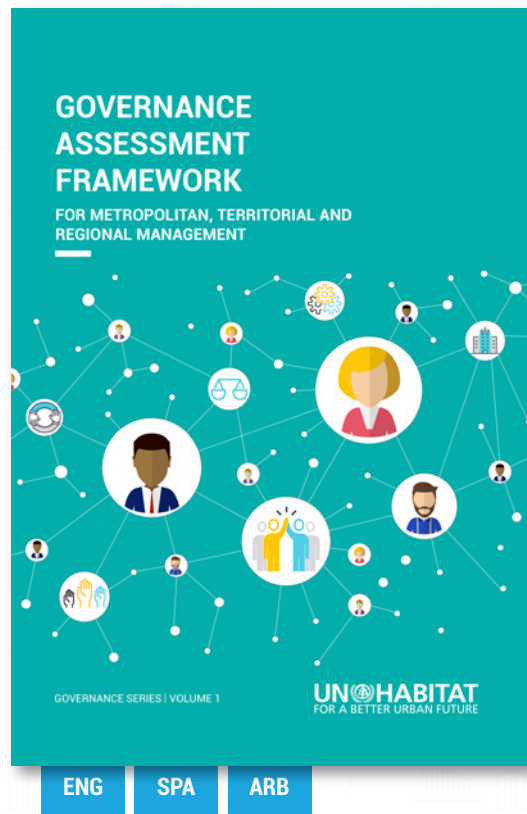


Spanish



Arabic

UN-Habitat,  
2020  
HS/043/20E  
82 pp.



## Guidance for Voluntary Local Reviews Vol. 1: A Comparative Analysis of Existing VLRs

Volume 1 of the VLR Series, the Guidelines for Voluntary Local Reviews, provides overview and analysis of all the documents that local governments have issued to review and assess their implementation performance, looking for common traits, comparable variables and the thread binding the VLRs together. The outcome is a study on the key features of VLRs, the institutional environment and capabilities through which they were designed, and a set of recommendations to invite many more local governments to undertake this effort and contribute local data, information, experiences and practices for others to learn and build upon.

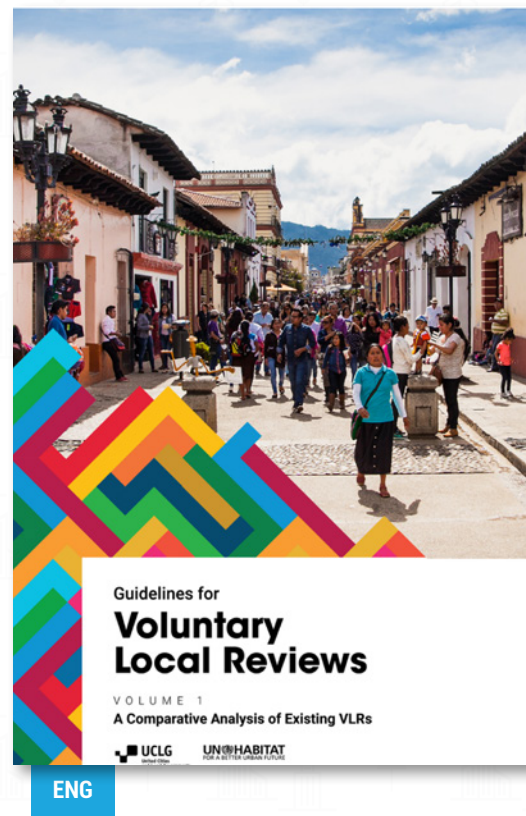
UCLG and UN-Habitat have long been partners in supporting local governments willing to engage with this process. Together, they have designed tools, methods and institutional opportunities through which local and regional governments have approached the global agendas and the localization of these common goals. Now, they have devised a VLR Series to provide guidance, definitions and technical support to any local and regional governments aiming to be part of this community.



UCLG, UN-Habitat, 2020

ISBN 9780367188733

50 pp. Available in: English



## Land Issues for Urban Governance in Sub-Saharan Africa

Sub-Saharan Africa faces many development challenges, such as its size and diversity, rapid urban population growth, history of colonial exploitation, fragile states and conflicts over land and natural resources. This collection, contributed from different academic disciplines and professions, seeks to support the UN Habitat New Urban Agenda passed at Habitat III in Quito, Ecuador, in 2016. It will attract readers from urban specialisms in law, geography and other social sciences, and from professionals and policy-makers concerned with land use planning, surveying and governance.

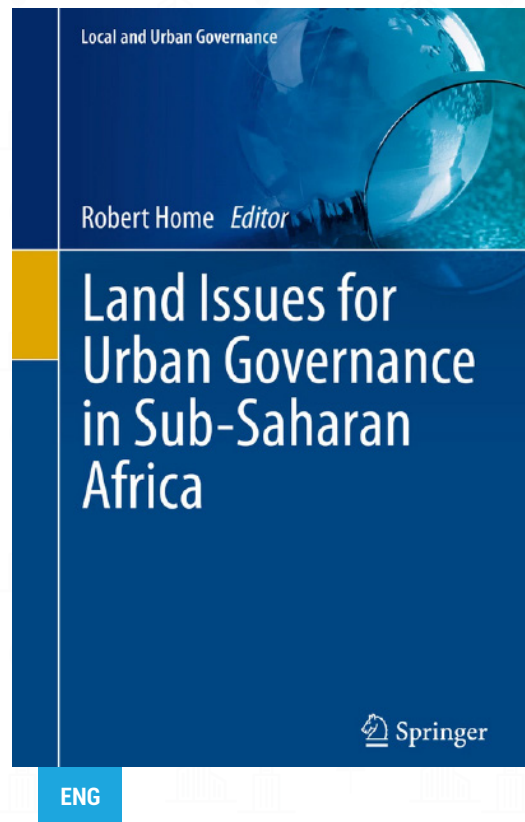
Among the topics addressed by the book are challenges to governance institutions: how international development is delivered, building land management capacity, funding for urban infrastructure, land-based finance, ineffective planning regulation, and the role of alternatives to courts in resolving boundary and other land disputes. Issues of rights and land titling are explored from perspectives of human rights law (the right to development, and women's rights of access to land), and land tenure regularization. Particular challenges of housing, planning and informality are addressed through contributions on international real estate investment, community participation in urban settlement upgrading, housing delivery as a partly failing project to remedy apartheid's legacy, and complex interactions between political power, money and land.



Springer, 2020

**ISBN** 978-3-030-52504-0

360 pp. Available in: English



## Effectiveness of Planning Law in Sub-Saharan Africa - Urban Legal Case Studies, Volume 8

UN-Habitat has conducted an objective, evidence-based assessment on the application of physical planning laws in 18 cities of the Sub-Saharan Africa Region. The selection of cities is based on the UN Global Sample of 200 cities as a statistically and regionally representative dataset.

This publication portrays the findings from the study with empirical data on growth boundaries, population density, compliance with spatial planning and zoning, land management and staffing capacity. City managers in Sub-Saharan Africa can use this information to rethink the sustainability of their urbanization model and to help them create systems that can result in equity, shared prosperity and environmental sustainability.

These are key principles embodied under the New Urban Agenda and the 17 Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) – particularly Goal 11.



### EFFECTIVENESS OF PLANNING LAW IN SUB-SAHARAN AFRICA

URBAN LEGAL CASE STUDIES | Volume 8



UN HABITAT  
FOR A BETTER URBAN FUTURE

ENG



UN-Habitat, 2019

**HS Number:** HS/032/19E

**ISBN Number (Volume):** 978-92-1-132842-4

138 pp., Available in: English

## Urban Law Tools No1: Planning Law Assessment Framework

The Planning Law Assessment Framework uses two sets of indicators to assess urban planning laws. Firstly, the Planning Law Assessment Framework uses indicators of a law's functional effectiveness. The second set of indicators is technical in nature, related to the core areas of planning.

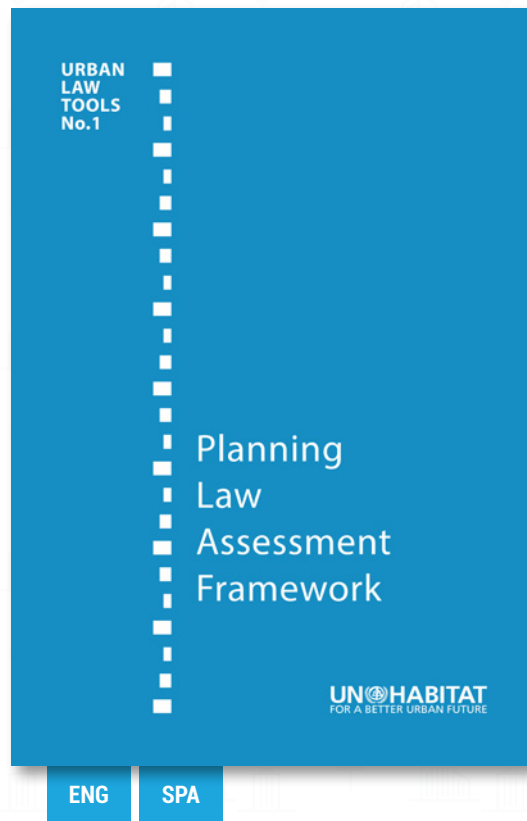


English



Spanish

UN-Habitat, 2018  
88 pp., 210 x 297 mm  
**HS Number:** HS/049/18E



## Urban Law in Colombia: Urban Legal Case Studies, Volume 5

The Colombian legal-urban framework is a robust and complex structure of tools that seek to meet land's "social and ecological function", defined by Colombia's 1991 Constitution. It has become a renowned example in Latin America, as it introduces many different principles and tools that other countries in the region had not implemented or utilized.

The strengthening of urban development and territorial planning as key elements in the overall development of Colombia has led to the creation of strong and renovated institutions, which seek to manage, coordinate, and control the new principles and tools for territorial development.



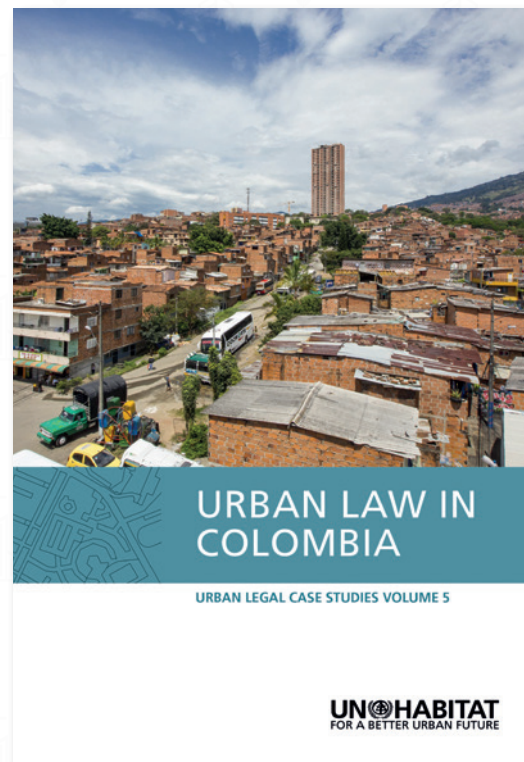
UN-Habitat, 2018

**HS Number:** HS/057/18E

**ISBN Number** (Series): 978-92-1-133365-7

**ISBN Number:** (Volume) 978-92-1-132809-7

188 pp., Available in: English



ENG

## Strengthening Environmental Reviews in Urban Development: Urban Legal Case Studies, Volume 6

Environmental reviews, often in the form of environmental impact or strategic environmental assessments, play a fundamental role in the process of urban development. They are institutionalized decision-making arrangements in domestic legislation to address the environmental impacts and risks associated with a project.

Strengthened environmental and social reviews in urban development processes and their integration into broader decision-making frameworks will support the implementation of the New Urban Agenda and several of the Sustainable Development Goals by approving projects which are ecologically sensitive, socially acceptable, and economically cost-effective. Six case studies in this book, from Uganda, South Africa, Fiji, Sri Lanka, Brazil, and the USA, present empirical evidence on the relationship between environmental and development decision-making in the urban context.

The cases identify key implementation issues and options to address them efficiently at country and city levels. Building upon this, the work also outlines capacity building needs and coordination approaches that are appropriate to resource poor contexts.



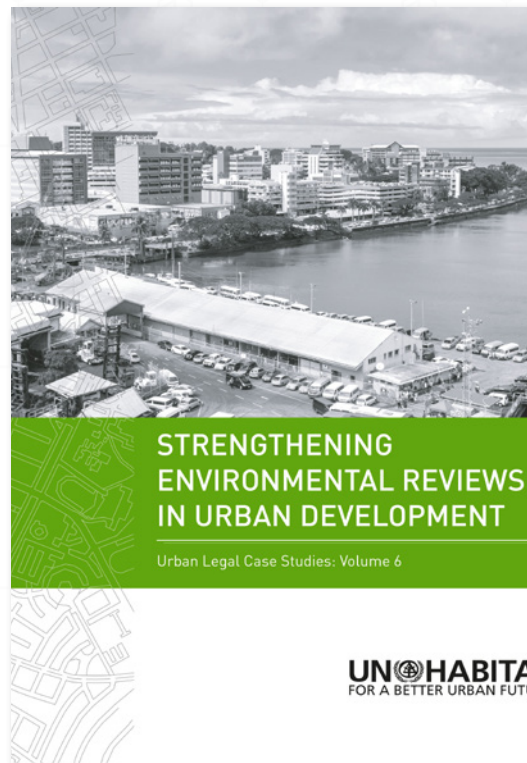
UN-Habitat, 2018

**HS Number:** HS/076/18E

**ISBN Number (Series):** 978-92-1-133365-7

**ISBN Number (Volume):** 978-92-1-132816-5

164 pp., Available in: English



ENG

## Global Experiences in Land Readjustment: Urban Legal Case Studies, Volume 7

This book will help countries, especially those in the Global South, to identify and explore choices, and their likely impacts, and, as a result, improve the quality and durability of project outcomes. It may also be useful in implementing urbanisation policy, as it provides examples of the resources and institutional capacities required to deliver different types of project.



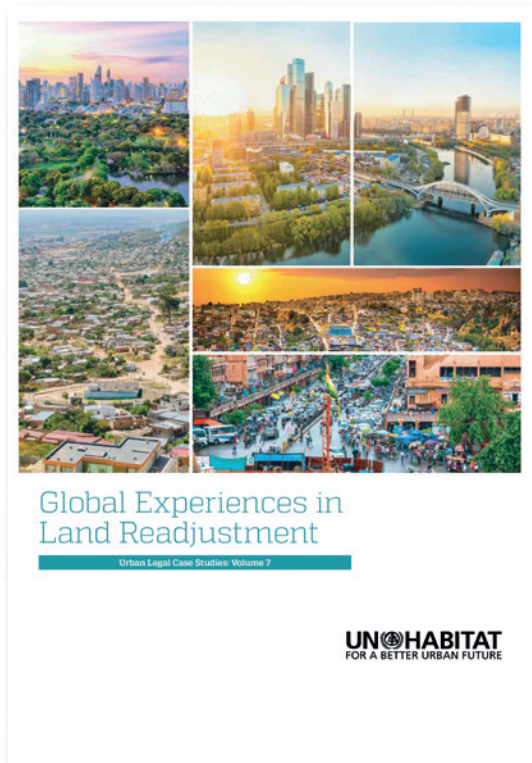
UN-Habitat, 2018

184 pp.

**HS Number:** HS/050/18E

**ISBN Number:** (Volume) 978-92-1-132806-6

Available in: English



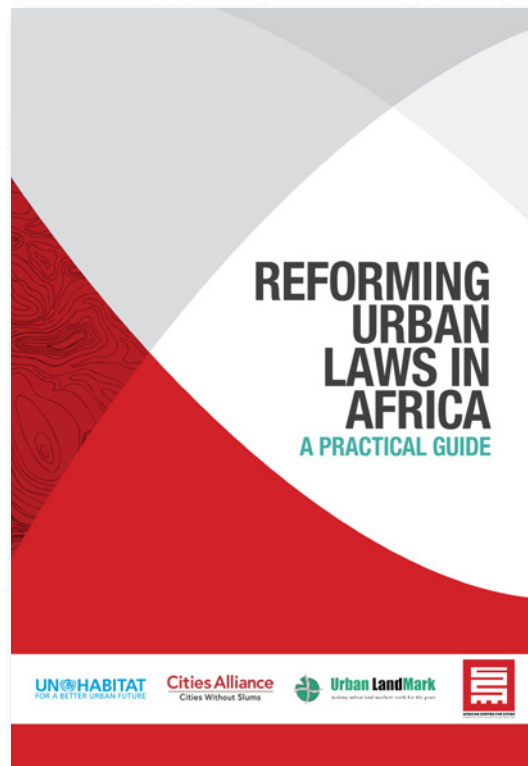
ENG

## Reforming Urban Laws in Africa: A Practical Guide

This guide aims to strengthen the process by which the laws and regulations that govern urban areas are drafted. It looks at the characteristics of urban legislation in Sub-Saharan Africa and the challenges faced in changing these laws to propose a practical, real-world approach to drafting urban legislation.



UN-Habitat, Cities Alliance, Urban LanMark , African  
Centre for Cities, 2017  
**ISBN** 978-0-620-74707-3  
60 pp., 176 x 250 mm  
Available in: English



ENG

## Rules of the Game: Urban Legislation

Effective urban legislation is an indispensable pillar of sustainable urban development. The global urban population will grow by +3 billion in the coming 50 years and 98% of the urban growth will be in developing countries.

This unprecedented growth can result in anarchy and increased inequality if not underpinned by effective and coherent policy and legal, institutional and governance frameworks that will ensure a solid context for planning, dialogue between actors and rights-based approaches to development.



UN-Habitat, 2017  
40 pp.  
Available in: English



ENG

## Local Law Making in Cape Town: A Case Study of the Municipal Planning By-Law Process – Urban Legal Case Studies, Volume 4

This report examines municipal law-making surrounding land use planning in the City of Cape Town. It investigates the extent to which the City of Cape Town has powers to make by-laws on land use planning and how much of that power is circumscribed by other state organs and levels. It also examines the institutional and practical context in which municipal law-making takes place in order to assess the actual relevance of the city's power to make law.



UN-Habitat, GLTN, Urban Legal Network, 2015

HS/066/15E

**ISBN Number** (Series): 978-92-1-133365-7

**ISBN Number** (Volume): 978-92-1-132678-9

70 pp., Available in: English



ENG

## Land Readjustment Experiences in Turkey: Urban Legal Case Studies, Volume 3

This report analyzes the potential and challenges of land readjustment in Turkey, looking at the specific difficulties related to the implementation of projects and providing recommendations to improve implementation and outcomes.

The methodology is based on a desktop study, in-depth interviews with selected experts and case studies on different uses of land readjustment. The desk study includes the findings of previous studies related to land readjustment; in particular, two surveys related to the use of land readjustment by Turk in 2003 and 2008. Turk's questionnaire in 2003 surveyed 468 municipalities and 300 technical experts (surveying engineers and urban planners). The 2008 study surveyed 60 large municipalities.



UN-Habitat, GLTN, Urban Legal Network, 2014

**HS/001/15E**

**ISBN Number** (Series): 978-92-1-133365-7

**ISBN Number** (Volume): 978-92-1-132637-6

136 pp. Available in: English



ENG

## Huambo Land Readjustment: Urban Legal Case Studies, Volume 1

Land readjustment is the concept of assembling land with the general objective of facilitating the development or redevelopment of land.

It has been used, for example, to redraw boundaries of rural land to make farms more efficient, to pool developed properties in brownfield redevelopment schemes, to assemble land for new developments in "greenfield" sites, and to achieve densification in already developed urban areas.



### HUAMBO LAND READJUSTMENT URBAN LEGAL CASE STUDIES

VOLUME 1

UN HABITAT  
FOR A BETTER URBAN FUTURE

GLTN

URBAN LEGAL NETWORK

ENG



UN-Habitat, 2013

**HS Number:** HS/057/13E

**ISBN number** (series): 978-92-1-133365-7

**ISBN number** (volume): 978-92-1-132588-1

66 pp., Available in: English

## Supply of Urban Land for Development – Land Re-adjustment Experience in Gujarat, India: Urban Legal Case Studies, Volume 2

UN Habitat has chosen to focus on a particular set of legal tools used to facilitate large-scale urban expansion, known as land readjustment / land pooling. This case study highlights the strengths and weaknesses of the Gujarat, Indian model. In particular, the case study calls for better community engagement by improving how current town planning schemes enable land readjustment and how the associated infrastructure is developed.



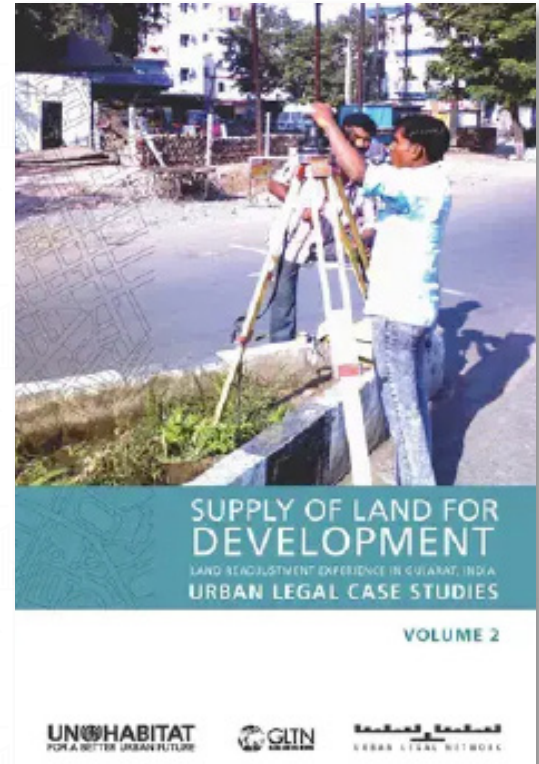
UN-Habitat, GLTN, Urban Legal Network, 2013

**HS Number:** HS/057/13E

**ISBN number** (series): 978-92-1-133365-7

**ISBN number** (volume): 978-92-1-132600-0

188 pp. Available in: English



ENG

## Key Competencies for Improving Local Governance - Volume 1: Quick Guide

Without strong local institutions and motivated staff, decentralization and human settlements reform will not deliver the desired development outcomes. Yet, many local authorities and civil society organisations lack the human resources required to meet urgent needs. Training and capacity building is therefore a wise investment into the future sustainability of our cities.

The Training and Capacity Building Branch (TCBB) of UN-HABITAT supports national training institutions to build their capacity to implement innovative programmes, focusing on local governance and sustainable human settlements development. Typical activities include training needs assessment, development of manuals, training of trainers, and impact evaluation. TCBB products have been successfully adapted and translated into over 20 languages.



UN-Habitat, May 2005

**HS Number** HS/744/05E

**ISBN Number:** 92-1-131729-0

**ISBN Series Number:** 92-1-131728-2

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



ENG

## Key Competencies for Improving Local Governance - Volume 3: Concepts and Strategies

The Local Elected Leadership (LEL) series presents two roles and ten competencies essential for every elected official to effectively perform their job when serving local communities. The series contains many training exercises and tools that can be used as practical on-the-job guide long after the leadership training workshop has ended.



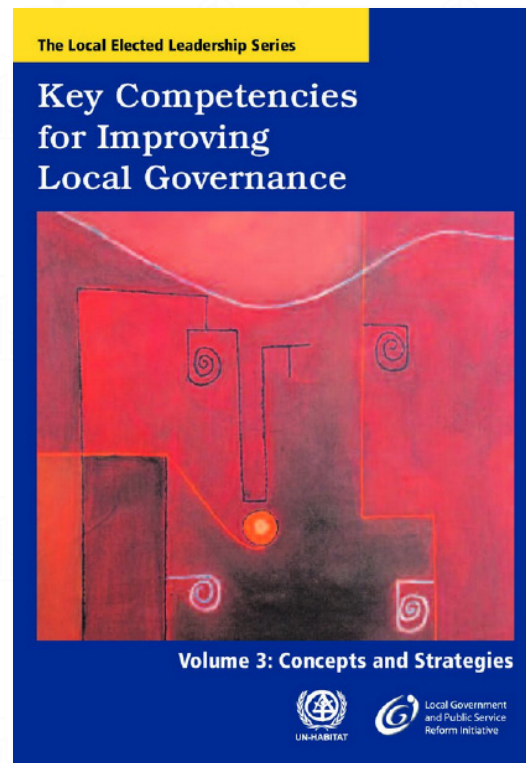
UN-Habitat, May 2005

**HS Number** HS/746/05E

**ISBN Number:** 92-1-131731-2

**ISBN Series Number:** 92-1-131728-2

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



ENG

## Key Competencies for Improving Local Governance - Volume 2: Users Guide

First published in 1994, the initial edition of this Local Elected Leadership (LEL) series has been translated into twenty-five languages and used in many regions of the world. Hundreds of trainers worldwide have been trained to facilitate elected leadership workshops and several hundred thousand local elected and appointed officials have participated in leadership programmes using the materials. In addition, the LEL series has been used by hundreds of non-governmental and community-based organizations to strengthen their management and leadership skills and competencies.



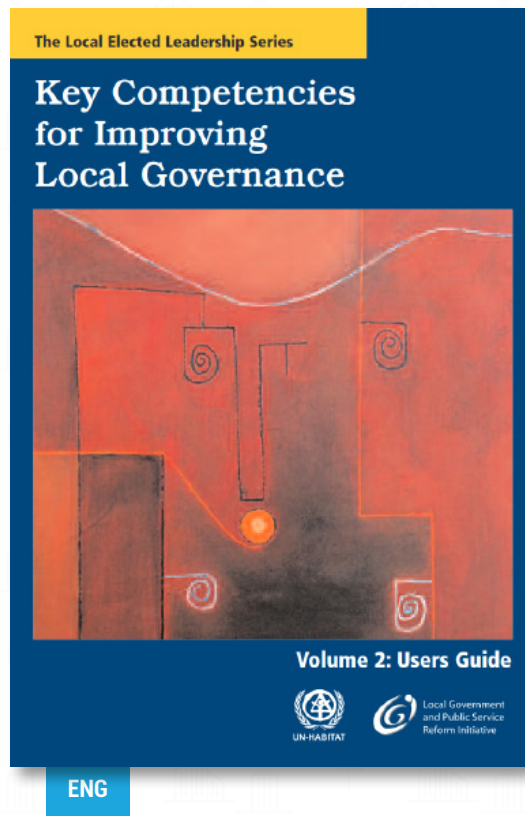
UN-Habitat, February 2005

**HS Number** HS/745/05E

**ISBN Number:** 92-1-131730-4

**ISBN Series Number:** 92-1-131728-2

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





**URBAN-RURAL LINKAGES**

**URL**



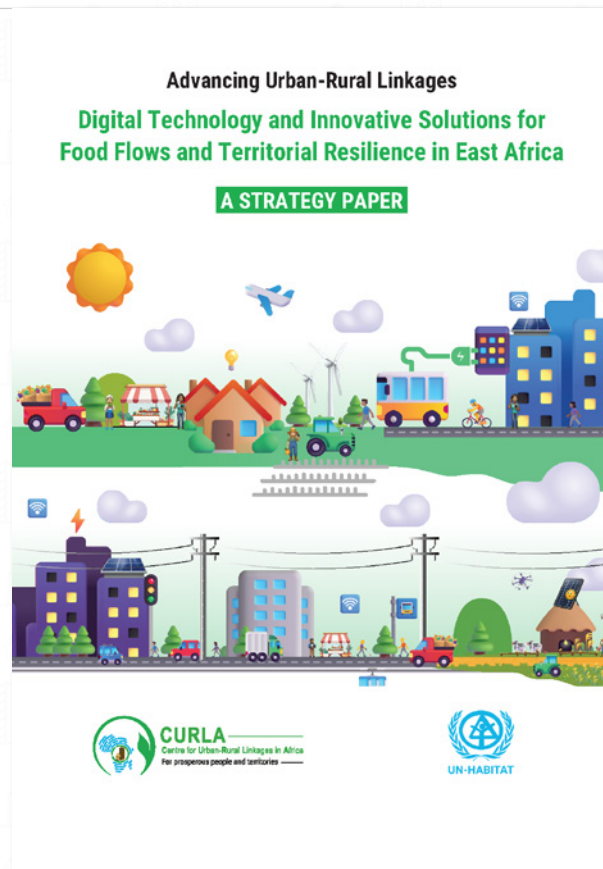
## Advancing Urban-Rural Linkages : Digital Technology and Innovative Solutions for Food Flows and Territorial Resilience in East Africa - A STRATEGY PAPER

Food security and sustainable urban-rural connections are critical to territorial resilience in East Africa, yet many challenges persist. Smallholder farmers, traders, and policymakers face obstacles such as inefficient value chains, poor infrastructure, and a lack of access to digital tools that could optimize food distribution and market participation. As cities grow and demand for food increases, there is an urgent need to integrate digital innovations into food systems to improve efficiency, transparency, and inclusivity.

This strategy paper explores the role of digital technology in enhancing food flows and territorial resilience in Kenya, Tanzania, and Uganda. It presents case studies on successful digital solutions, including mobile applications, e-commerce platforms, and smart agricultural innovations, which are transforming food markets and supply chains. Developed through a collaborative effort involving UN agencies, academia, international NGOs, and government stakeholders, this publication provides a roadmap for implementing digital tools in food systems.



UN-Habitat, CURLA 2025  
Available in: English



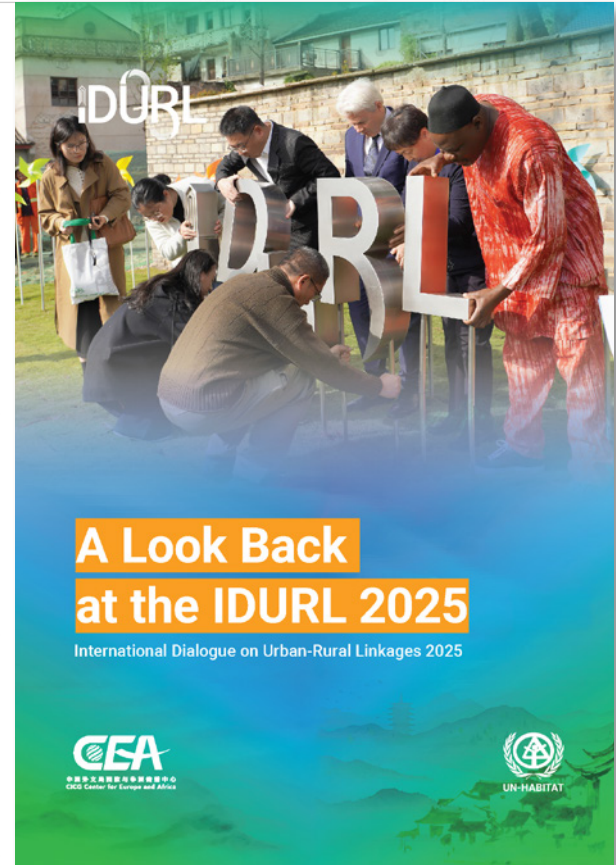
## A Look Back at the IDURL 2025

In the serene landscapes of Songyang County, China, the 2025 International Dialogue on Urban-Rural Linkages (IDURL) became a living showcase of how culture, housing, heritage, and basic services can bridge urban and rural realities. Co-organized by UN-Habitat and the China International Communications Group (CICG), the Dialogue convened over 100 participants from 15 countries to share ideas, experiences, and innovations driving inclusive and sustainable territorial development.

Access the brief report in this [link](#).



UN-Habitat, 2025  
Available in: English



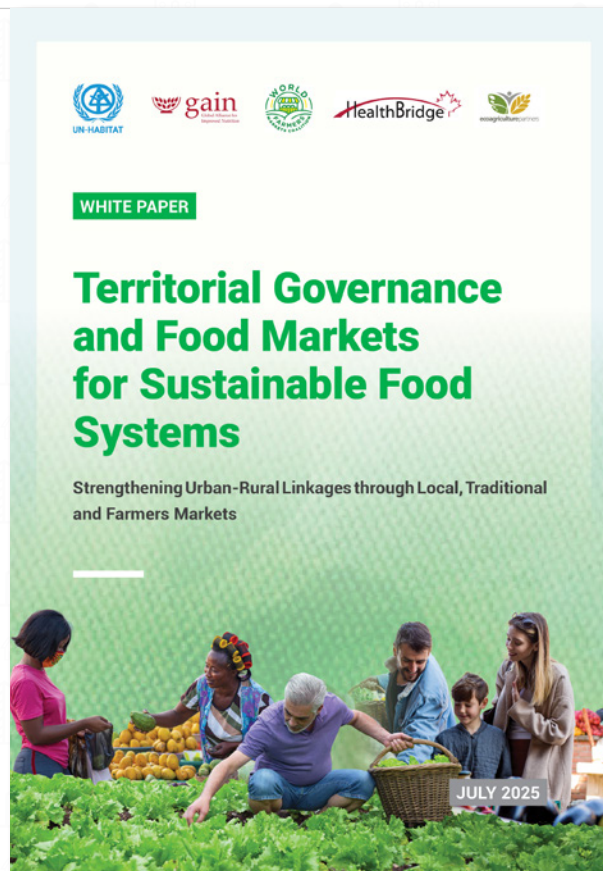
ENG

## Territorial Governance and Food Markets for Sustainable Food Systems

This White Paper is a collaboration of UN-Habitat's Urban-Rural Linkages Program with the Global Alliance for Improved Nutrition (GAIN) as background for discussions at the upcoming UN Food System Summit Stocktaking (UNFSS+4). The paper draws upon recent working papers, expert group meetings including the GAIN-FAO-Rikolto Local and Traditional Food Markets Global Technical Meeting (June 2024), programmatic delivery, and reports from organizations referenced in this paper. Noting the contributions received from the World Farmers Markets Coalition, ICLEI-Local Governments for Sustainability, EcoAgriculture Partners, HealthBridge and the Resilient Local Food Supply Chains Alliance.



UN-Habitat, GAIN 2025  
Available in: English



ENG



## 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.

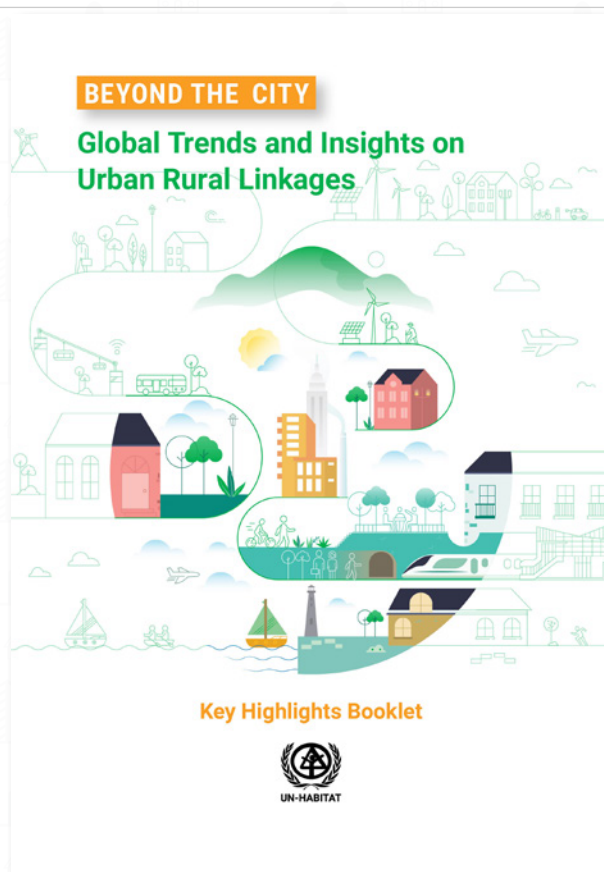
Through comparative analysis of Member States' survey responses, explore how URLs are integrated into national and subnational frameworks, and learn about the diverse actions taken globally to enhance these crucial connections.

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, 2025  
20 pp  
Available in: English



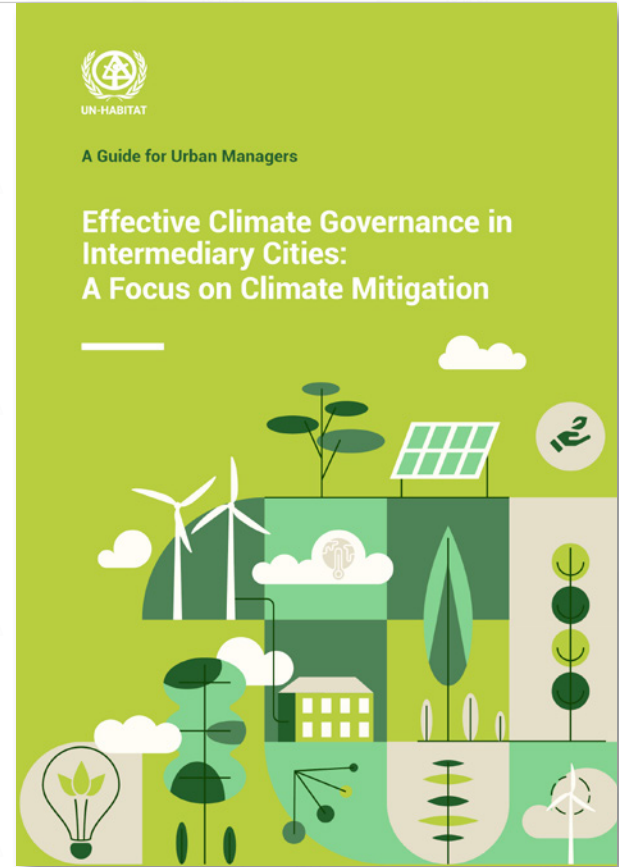
## Effective Climate Governance in Intermediary Cities

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



ENG

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

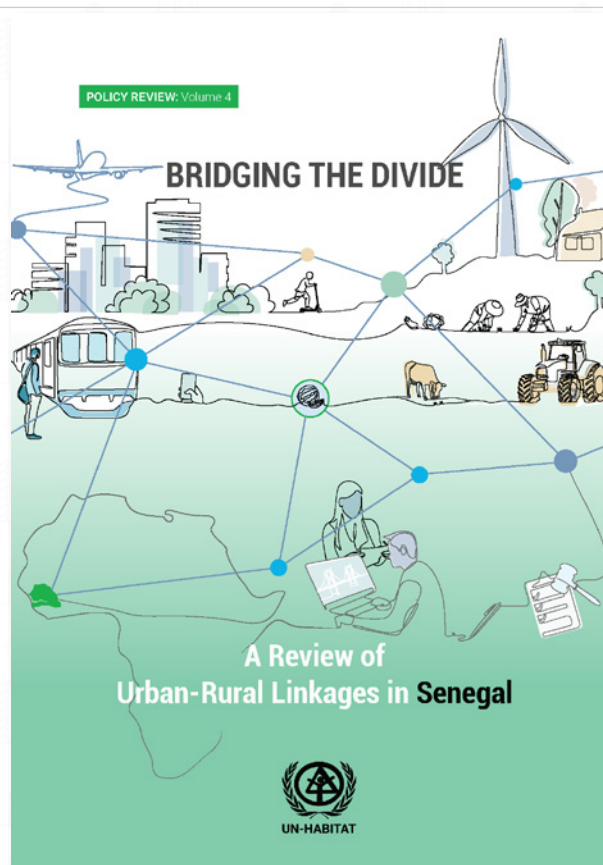
Delve into this in-depth analysis of the economic, environmental, and social challenges faced by both urban and rural communities in Senegal. Gain valuable insights into the intricate interplay between these two domains and their impact on the nation's development trajectory.

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

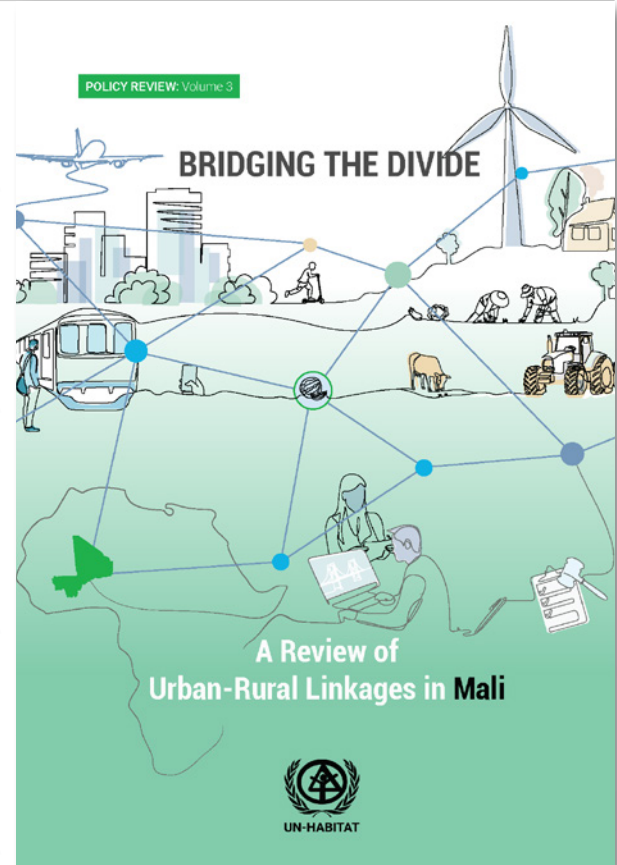
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UN-Habitat, 2025  
Available in: English



ENG

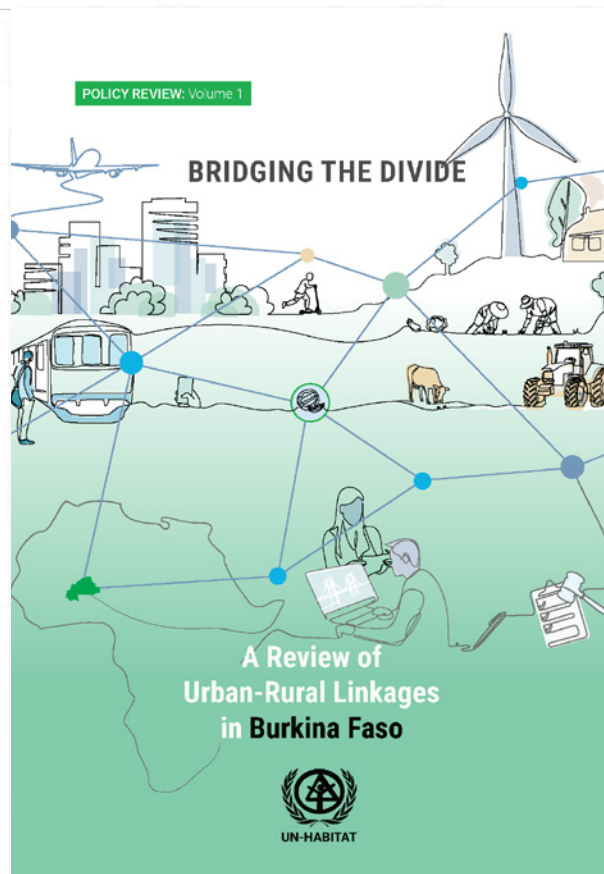
## Burkina Faso Bridging the Divide: A Review of Urban-Rural Linkages

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.



UN-Habitat, 2025  
Available in: English



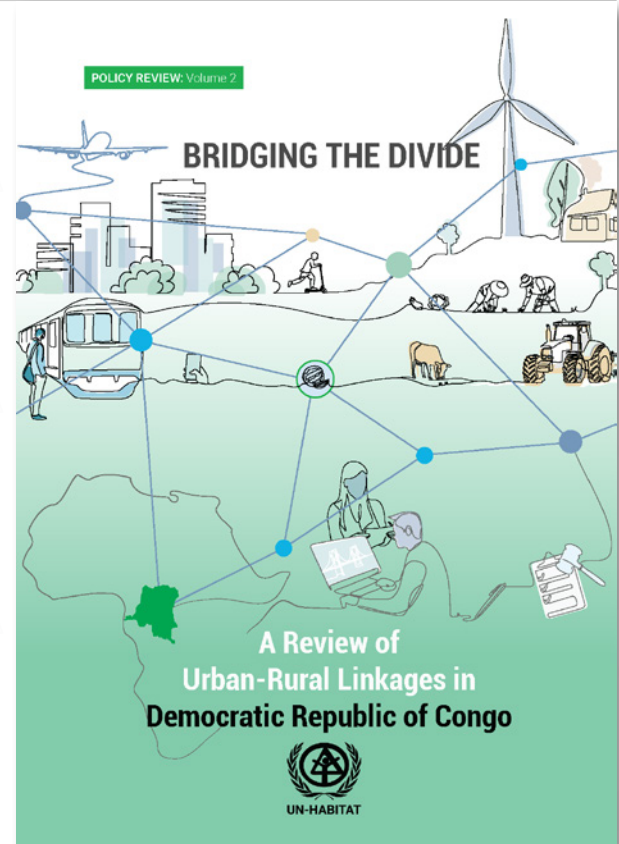
## DRC Bridging the Divide: A Review of Urban-Rural Linkages

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

## 8<sup>th</sup> 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



### 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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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.

**EDITORIAL TEAM** : Grace Githiri and Antonio Kipyegon  
**CONTACTS**: [unhabitat-ur@un.org](mailto:unhabitat-ur@un.org)

### *In this issue*



Urban-Rural Linkages @ WUF12



UN-Habitat at Key partner Events



Partner Perspectives



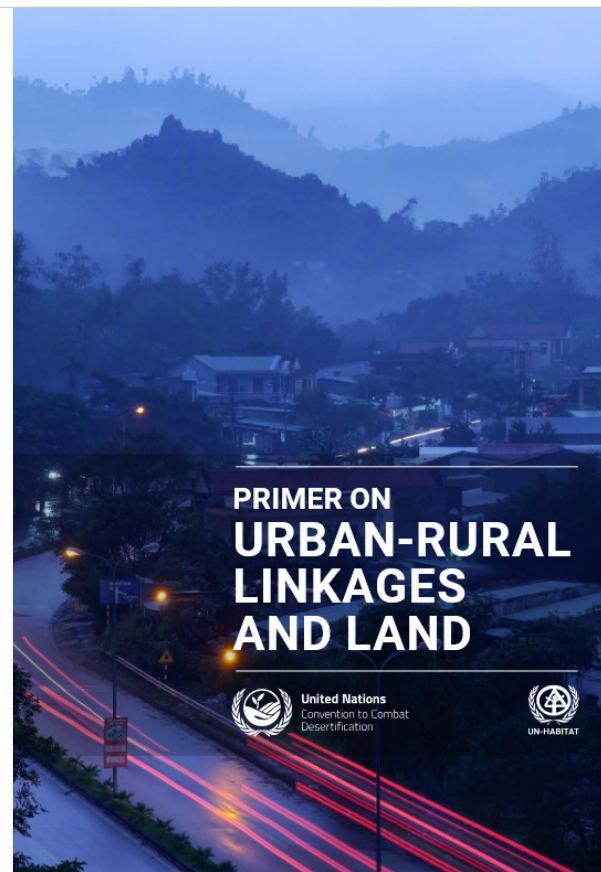
Stay updated

## 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



ENG

## 7<sup>th</sup> 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



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

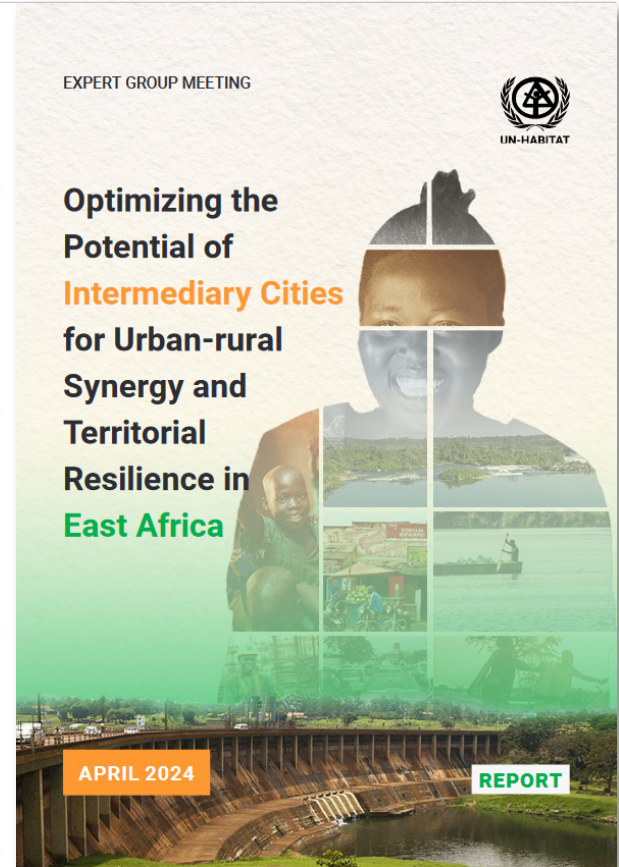
With nearly 80 percent of the world's impoverished population residing in rural areas, bridging the gap between urban and rural regions is imperative for sustainable development, amidst the global phenomenon of rapid urbanization. In this context, a two-day expert group meeting was held in Jinja, Uganda, 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.

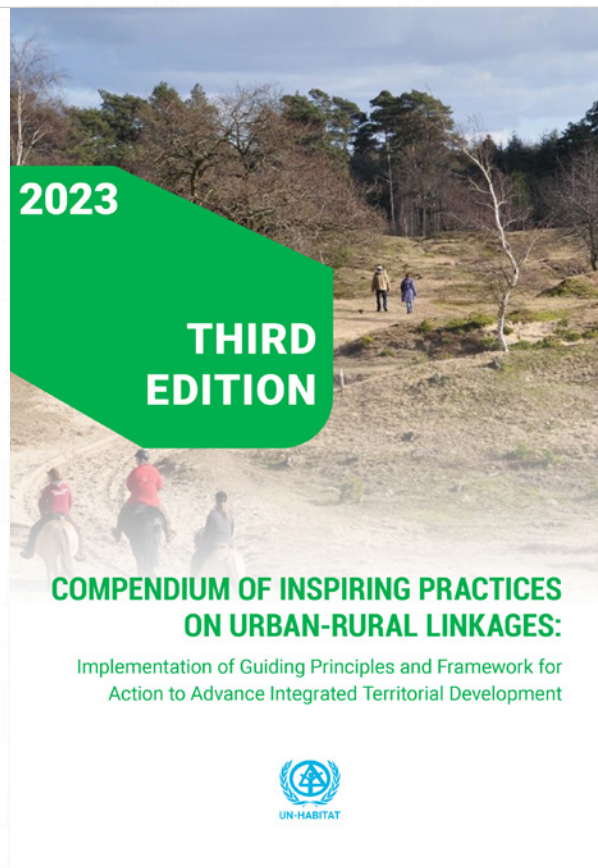


UN-Habitat, 2023

**HS Number: HS/055/22E**

196 pp

Available in: English



## The Third International Forum on Urban-Rural Linkages Reports



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## 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

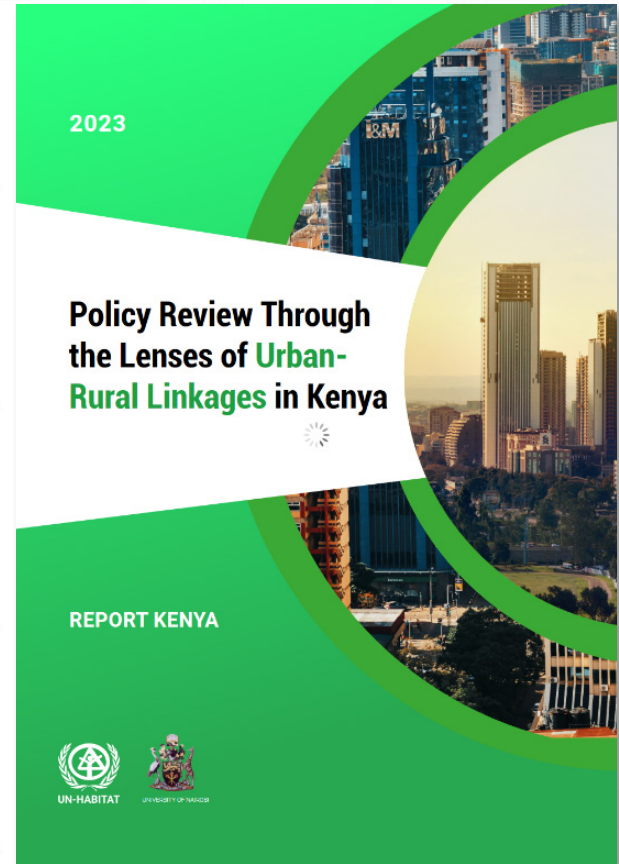


## Policy Review Through the lenses of Urban-Rural Linkages in Kenya

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



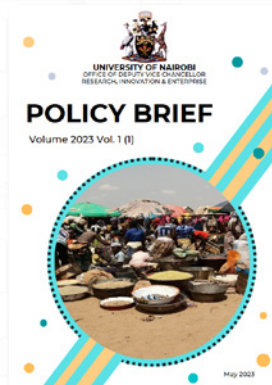
ENG

## 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.



ENG



ENG



University of Nairobi, 2023  
Available in: English

## 6<sup>th</sup> 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 6<sup>th</sup> Edition | October 2023

CONTACT: [unhabitat-ur@un.org](mailto:unhabitat-ur@un.org)



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

### EDITORIAL TEAM NOTE

#### Hello Reader

Welcome to our 6<sup>th</sup> 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 5<sup>th</sup> 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.

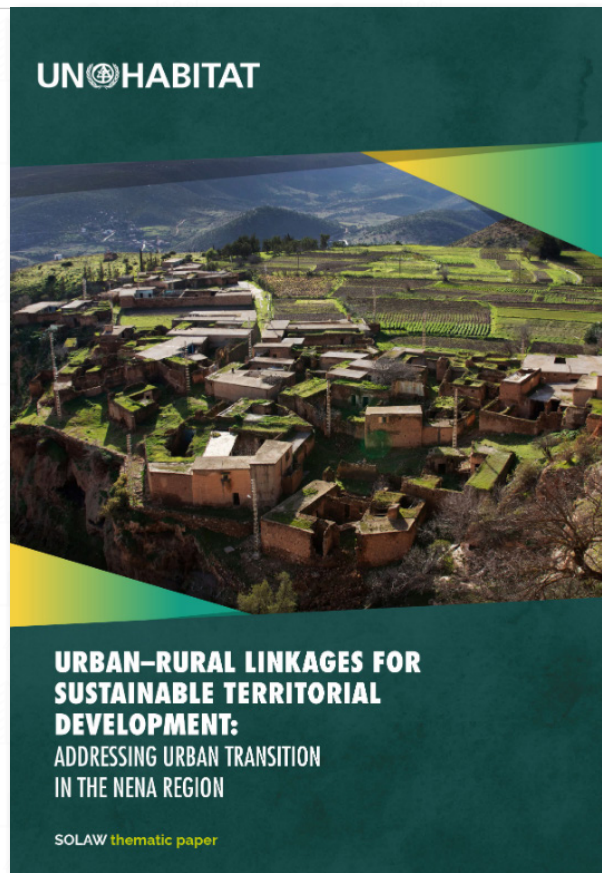


UN-Habitat, 2023

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

60 pp., 210 x 297 mm

Available in: English



## 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

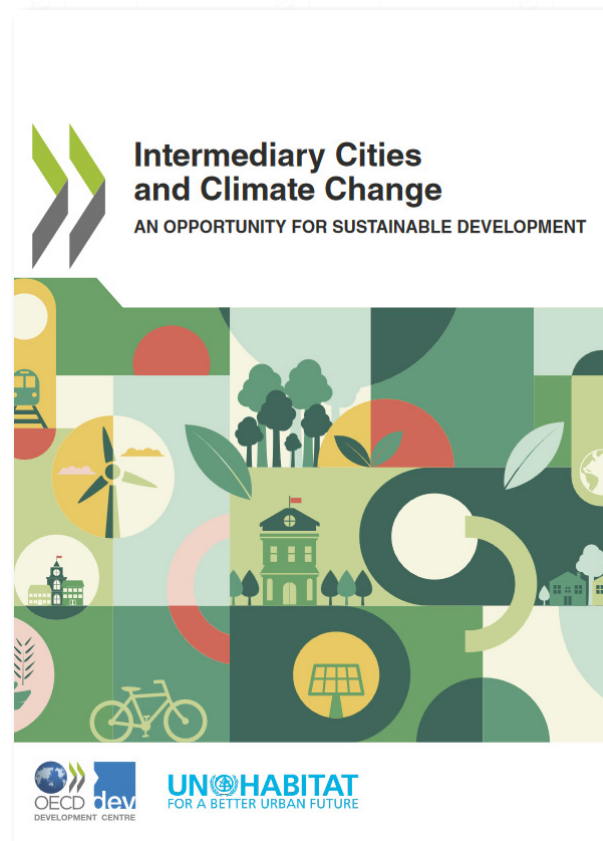
**ISBN Series Number:** 978-92-64-63820-4 (print)

**ISBN Series Number:** 978-92-64-61271-6 (pdf)

**ISBN Series Number:** 978-92-64-55947-9 (HTML)

**ISBN Series Number:** 978-92-64-50418-9 (epub)

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



ENG

## 5<sup>th</sup> Edition: Urban Rural Linkages Newsletter

This edition of the URL newsletter marks the fifth year anniversary of the January 2018 draft of what evolved through a year and a half of multi-agency, multi-actor contributions, resulting in the Urban-Rural Linkages: Guiding Principles and Framework of Action to Advance Integrated Territorial Development (URL-GP). This set of principles and actions have been utilized, adapted and incorporated in thematic guides, interactive tools, and national/subnational policy processes.



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

## URBAN-RURAL LINKAGES Newsletter 5<sup>th</sup> Edition | January 2023

CONTACTS: [unhabitat-ur@un.org](mailto:unhabitat-ur@un.org)



The UN-Habitat Arena at the World Urban Forum 11 Edge in Katowice, Poland June 2022

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### EDITORIAL TEAM NOTE

Dear reader,

Welcome to this 5<sup>th</sup> Edition of the Urban-Rural Linkages (URL) Newsletter!

This edition of the URL newsletter marks the fifth year anniversary of the January 2018 draft of what evolved through a year and a half of multi-agency, multi-actor contributions, resulting in the Urban-Rural Linkages: Guiding Principles and Framework of Action to Advance Integrated Territorial Development (URL-GP)<sup>4</sup>. This set of principles and actions have been utilized, adapted and incorporated in thematic guides, interactive tools, and national/subnational policy processes.

Since the formal launch of the URL-GP in 2019 at the UN-Habitat Assembly, UN-Habitat has issued a series of newsletters to disseminate and take-stock of ongoing work by UN-Habitat and many partners. Recent years have seen progress on mainstreaming the importance of strengthening urban-rural linkages in relation to localizing the SDGs.

National and subnational applications of the URL-GP have also progressed through initiatives of UN-Habitat and partners with governments, academic and civil society organizations in 2022.

In this edition, we showcase URL highlights at the 11th World Urban Forum (WUF 11) and other international fora where UN-Habitat and partners engaged in projects or initiatives. We also present guest articles from experts in different organizations related to market systems, biodiversity and land as major entry points for managing urban rural linkages. This edition also summarizes a few of the latest knowledge products from UN-Habitat and inclusion of urban-rural linkages in decisions from UNCCD and CBD Conferences this year.

Happy reading and please share widely!

### Editorial team

Grace Githiri;  
Antonio Koyegon;  
Thomas Förster;  
Florence Eyal.

<sup>4</sup> URL-GP (2020) Urban-Rural Linkages Guiding Principles <https://www.unhabitat.org/urban-rural-linkages-guiding-principles>

## 4<sup>th</sup> 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 19<sup>th</sup> and 20<sup>th</sup> 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  
13 pp., 210 x 297 mm  
Available in: English

### URBAN-RURAL LINKAGES Newsletter 4<sup>th</sup> Edition | May 2022

CONTACTS: [unhabitat-info@un.org](mailto:unhabitat-info@un.org) | [unhabitat-urb-rpls@un.org](mailto:unhabitat-urb-rpls@un.org)



Bamboo pavilion, Hengliang village, Songyang, China 2019 © UN-Habitat/Luhua Meiwei

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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](#).

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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 "[UN-Habitat/Res.8: 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.

ENG

## 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 convenor.



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

## 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



### An integrated territorial approach

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

**UN HABITAT**  
FOR A BETTER URBAN FUTURE



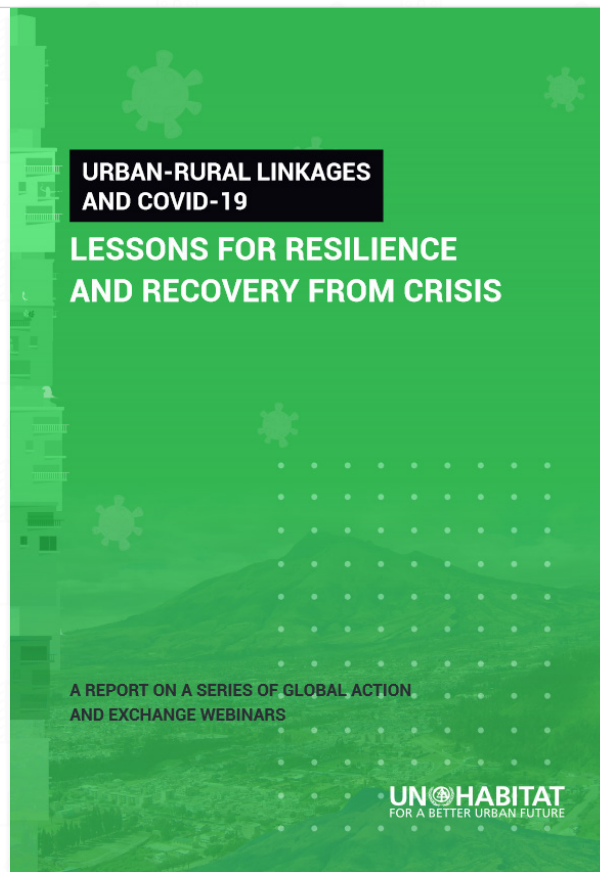
ENG

## 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 urbanrural 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.



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



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

**WEBINAR REPORT**  
21 JANUARY 2022

**UN HABITAT**  
FOR A BETTER URBAN FUTURE

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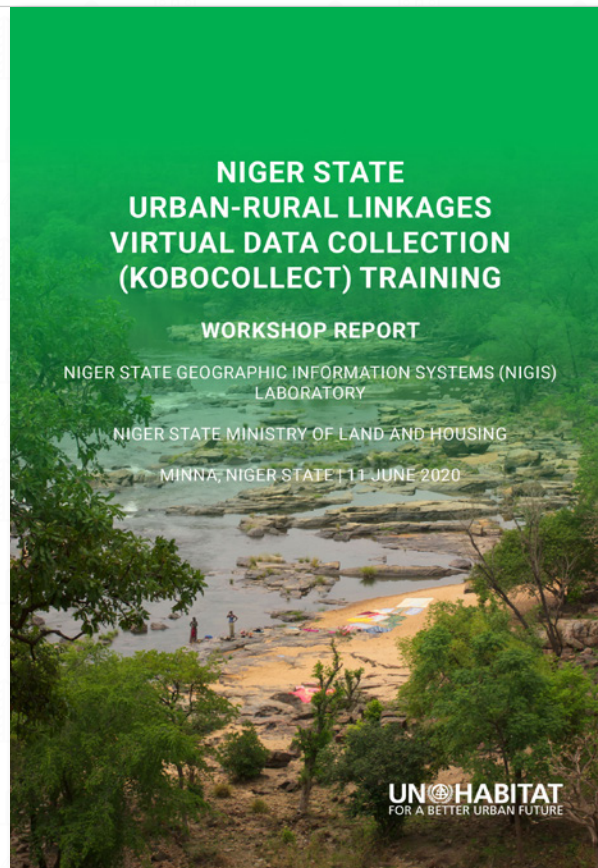
## Niger State Urban-Rural Linkages Virtual Data Collection (Kobocollect) Training- workshop report

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

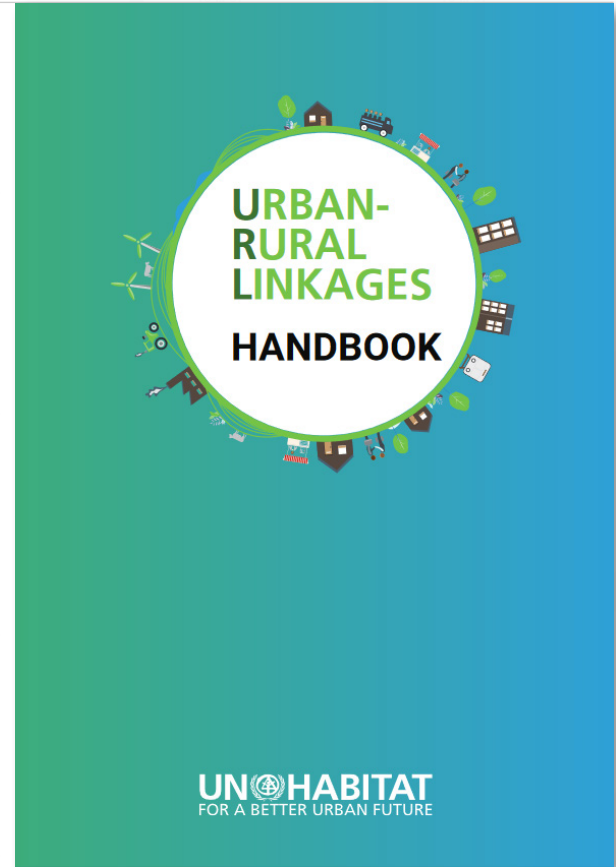


## Urban-Rural Linkages Handbook

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



ENG

## 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

**UN HABITAT**  
FOR A BETTER URBAN FUTURE

## 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



ENG

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

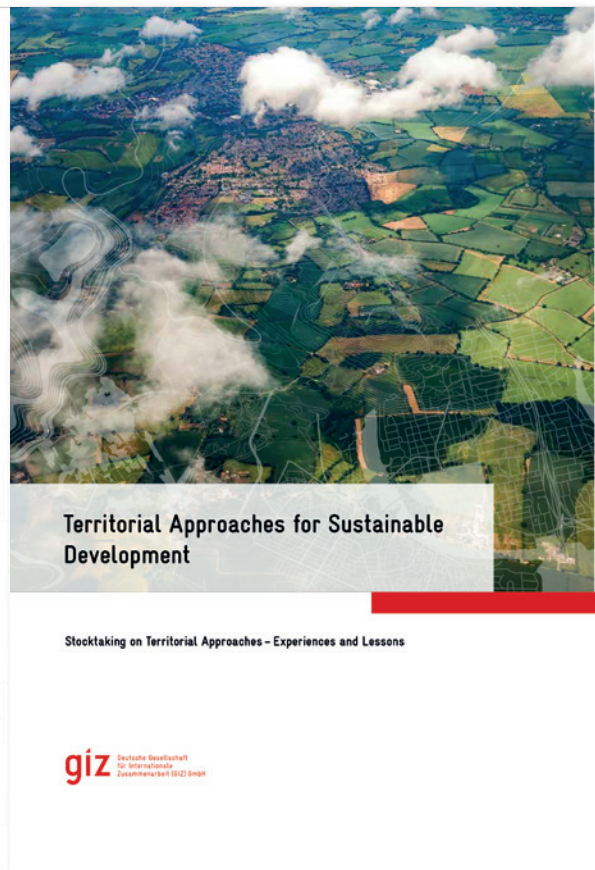
Perspectives and approaches that put territories at the centre of development have returned to become important in international debate and policy to implement the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development. Among the reasons for the renewed emphasis is the need to improve the effectiveness of sectoral 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

**UNHABITAT**  
FOR A BETTER URBAN FUTURE

ENG

## 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

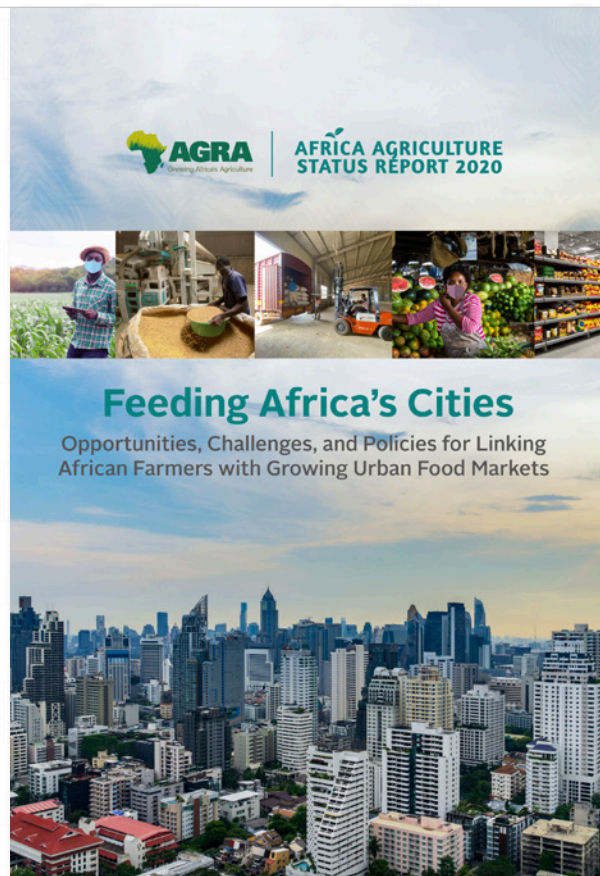
Africa's cities currently provide the largest and most rapidly growing agricultural markets in Africa. Out of total urban food sales of roughly US\$200 to US\$250 billion per year, over 80% comes from domestic African suppliers. In the coming decades, demographic projections forecast rates of African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



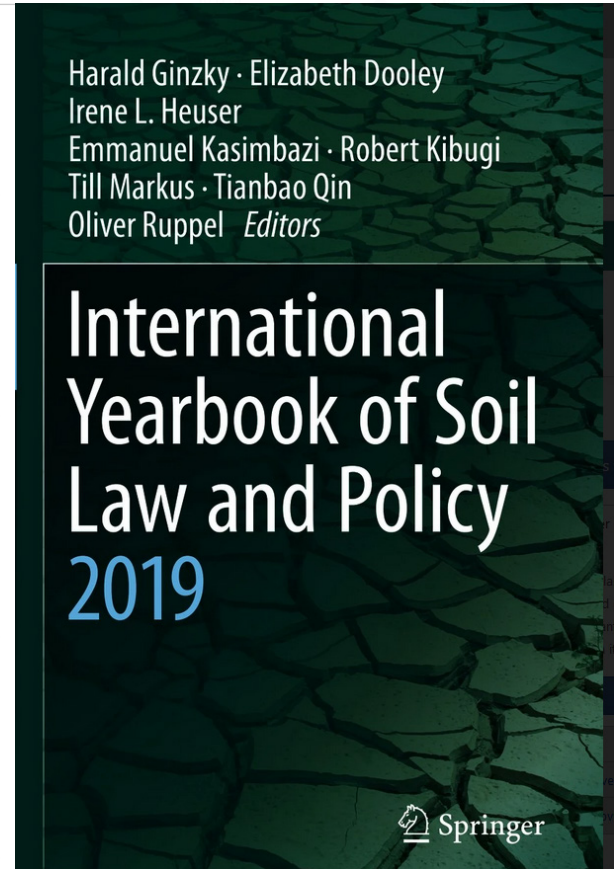
**International Yearbook of Soil Law and Policy 2019: The UN-Habitat Urban-Rural Linkages Guiding Principles: Assessment of the Adoptability to Topical Land Management Challenges in Germany, Kenya and Tanzania (Chap 10)**

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



ENG

### 3<sup>rd</sup> 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

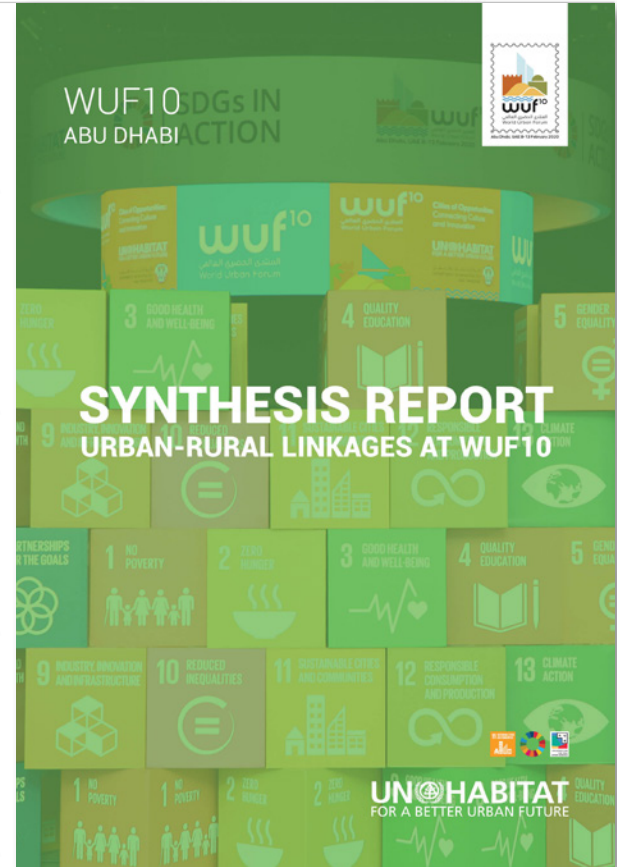
The Tenth Session of the World Urban Forum (WUF 10) was held from 8-13 February 2020 in Abu Dhabi, United Arab Emirates. The theme of this session of the World Urban Forum was 'Cities of Opportunities: Connecting Culture and Innovation'. Culture brings together knowledge, art, belief, capabilities, habits, 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

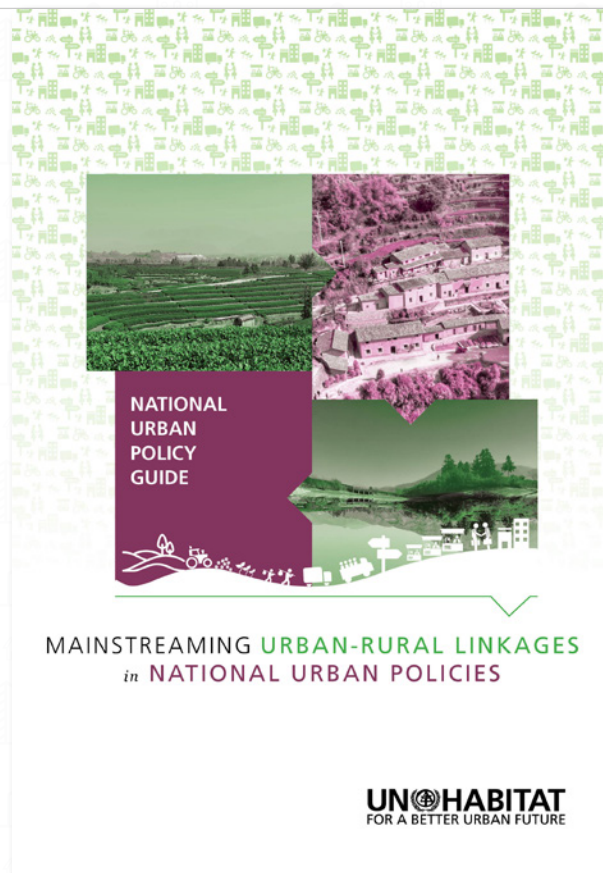


ENG

## 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

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

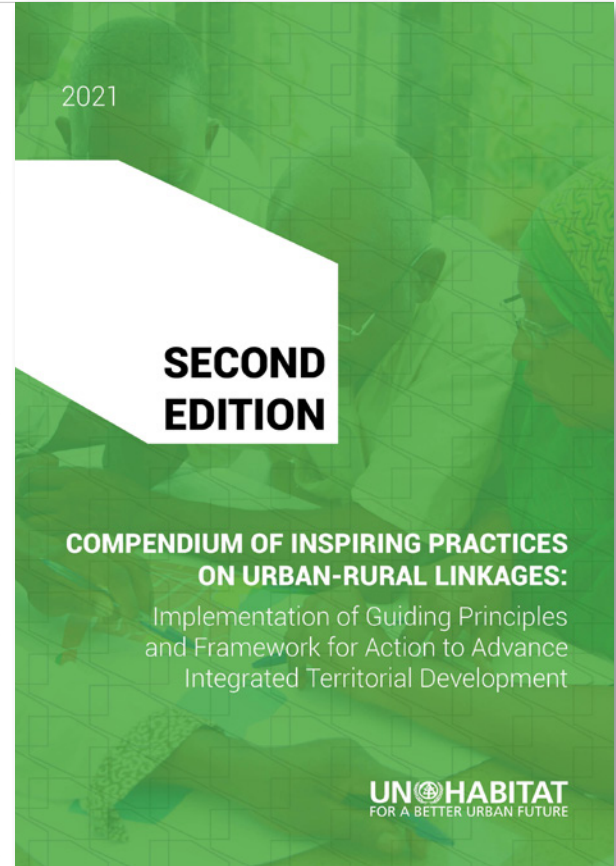
The Compendium of Inspiring Practices on Urban-Rural Linkages is an ongoing initiative at UN-Habitat for which new experiences - policies, strategies, tools, interventions, geographic or thematic projects - are continuously collected. The compendium aims to inform both general and expert audiences about 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



ENG

## 2<sup>nd</sup> 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



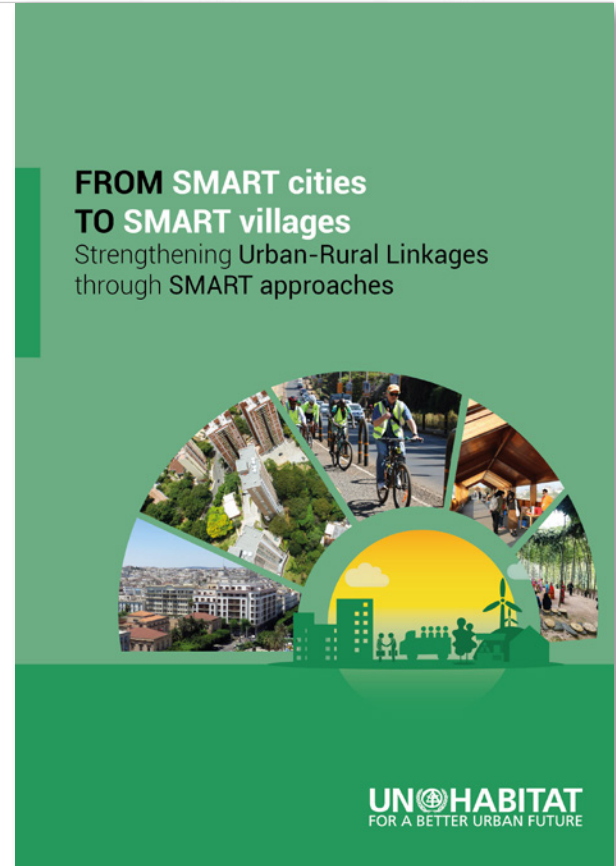
## From SMART Cities to SMART Villages: Strengthening Urban-Rural Linkages through Smart approaches

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.<sup>16</sup> 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.<sup>12</sup> 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



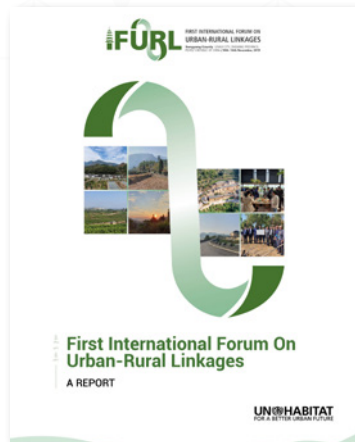
ENG

## 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

UN HABITAT  
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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.

JUNE 2020

ENG

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

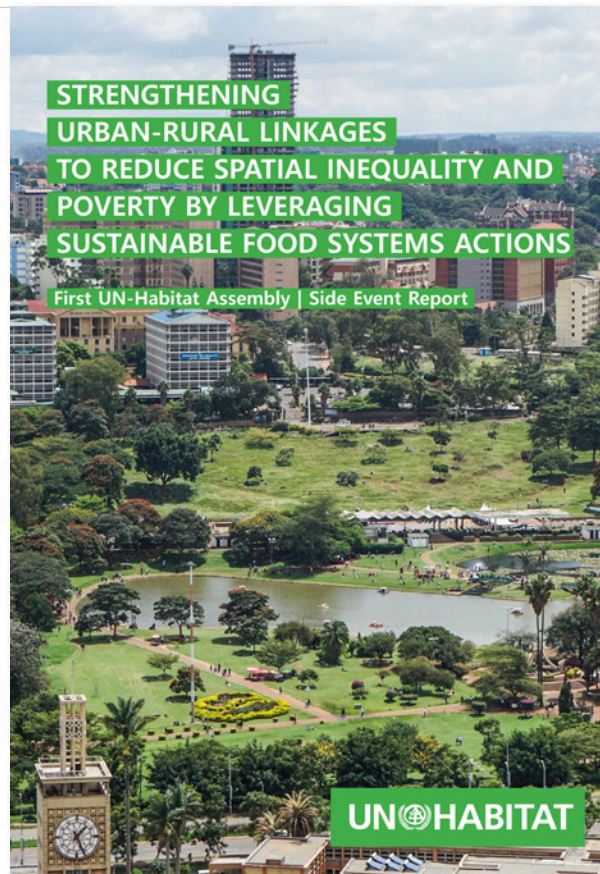
A side event as part of the first UN-Habitat Assembly (UNHA) was held

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



## 1<sup>st</sup> Edition: Urban Rural Linkages Newsletter

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.

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



## 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



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

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

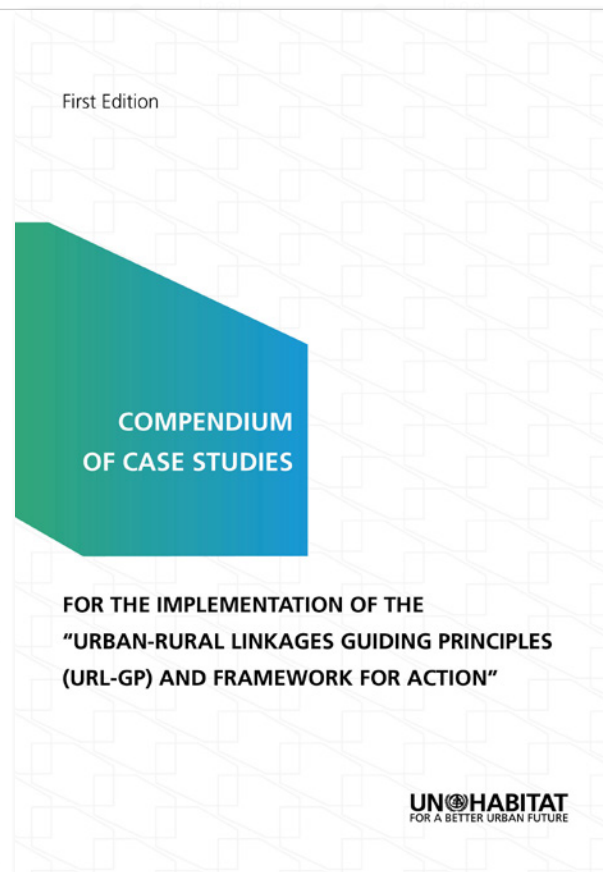
UN-Habitat and its UN and development partner are developing tools to strengthen urban-rural linkages to alleviate poverty, reduce inequality, and increase the resilience, sustainability and prosperity of integrated urban-rural territories. These tools will be made available to national, regional and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

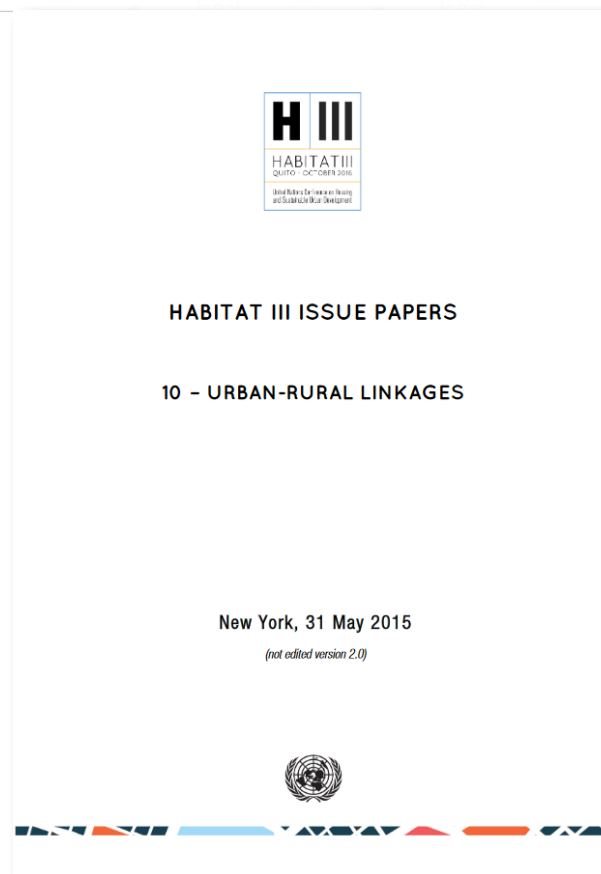
Available in: English

## 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.



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



ENG

## 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  
Vol.35, ISSN 0250-6505  
31 pp., 210 x 297 mm  
Available in: English





The background features a repeating pattern of various city-related icons in a light gray color, including buildings, trees, and streetlights. Two solid dark blue vertical bars are positioned on the left side of the page, one at the top and one at the bottom.

# **METROPOLITAN MANAGEMENT**

## Les Metròpolis davant un Món Inestable: Seguretat, Resiliència i Transformació

This Policy Brief summarizes the key findings from the July 2025 seminar, "Metropolises Facing an Unstable World: Security, Resilience and Transformation," organized by IBEI, AMB, and UN-Habitat.

The report highlights the critical, dual role of metropolises: they are highly exposed to complex global crises - such as climate change, geopolitical conflicts, and forced migration - but also possess the capacity to drive innovative, resilient solutions.



UN-Habitat, 2025  
36 pp.  
Available in: Spanish



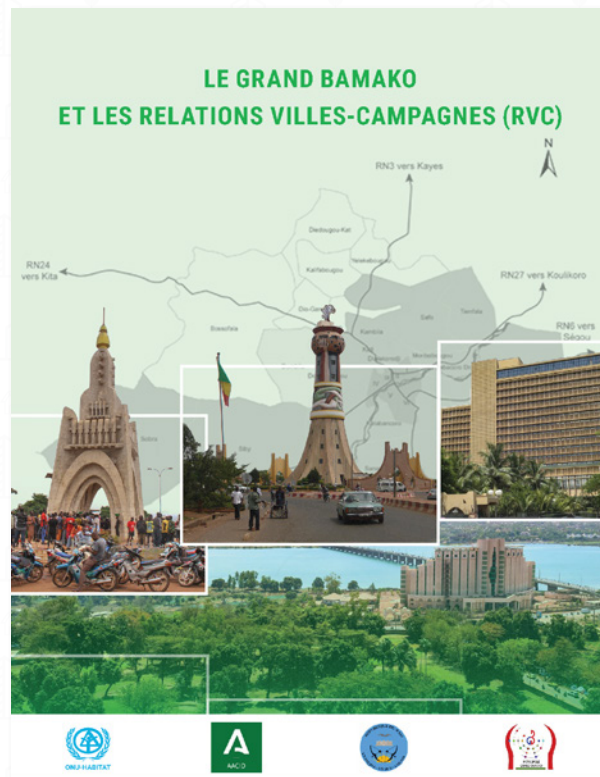
## Le Grand Bamako et les Relations Villes-Campagnes (RVC)

La thématique des « Relations Villes Campagnes » n'est pas étrangère au Mali. Elle est désormais prise en compte et considérée comme un domaine important d'intervention pour toutes les questions de gestion territoriale pour un développement durable. Tout développement des zones urbaines, périurbaines et rurales devra désormais être "intégré". Bamako hier et Grand Bamako aujourd'hui ne font plus qu'une et unique métropole.

Avec les taux croissants d'urbanisation, il est urgent de comprendre la nature des Relations Villes Campagnes (RVC) considérée comme faisant référence aux « fonctions et flux complémentaires et synergiques de personnes, de ressources naturelles, de capitaux, de biens, d'emplois, de services écosystémiques, d'informations et de technologies entre les zones rurales, périurbaines et urbaines. Les approches traditionnelles de planification ne devraient plus considérer les zones urbaines et rurales comme des entités distinctes pour créer cette dichotomie entre les deux.



UN-Habitat, 2025  
100 pp.  
Available in: French



FRE

## Voluntary Metropolitan Reports, Methodological Guide

Voluntary Metropolitan Reports (VMRs) have emerged as a key instrument for assessing and showcasing the progress of metropolitan areas in implementing the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) and the New Urban Agenda. The Methodological Guide on Voluntary Metropolitan Reports provides a practical roadmap for metropolitan authorities and relevant stakeholders to develop VMRs that not only document achievements but also drive structural transformations aligned with sustainable development, while preparing cities for the post-2030 agenda.

This publication integrates multi-scalar, inclusive, and evidence-based approaches, featuring a groundbreaking focus on the digital acceleration of the SDGs. It promotes the strategic use of digital technologies, data ecosystems, and intelligent systems as enablers of urban sustainability. Additionally, the guide offers clear guidance on process design, data collection and analysis, inter-institutional coordination, and the development of strategic recommendations. Together, these elements position the guide as a critical tool to strengthen metropolitan institutional capacities and effectively align local action with global development agendas.



UN-Habitat, 2025  
46 pp.  
Available in: Spanish



## The Role of Heritage in Localising SDGs in the Metropolis

This is the Volume 2 of the Heritopolis Working Papers representing the activities of its Research Forum and the diverse studies on Heritage and the Metropolis that were debated by researchers around the world. The document is an effort to reflect on the new role of heritage in the current context, being aware of the ongoing demographic, economic, political and demographic challenges while considering heritage as a resource to be managed in the support of common wellbeing.

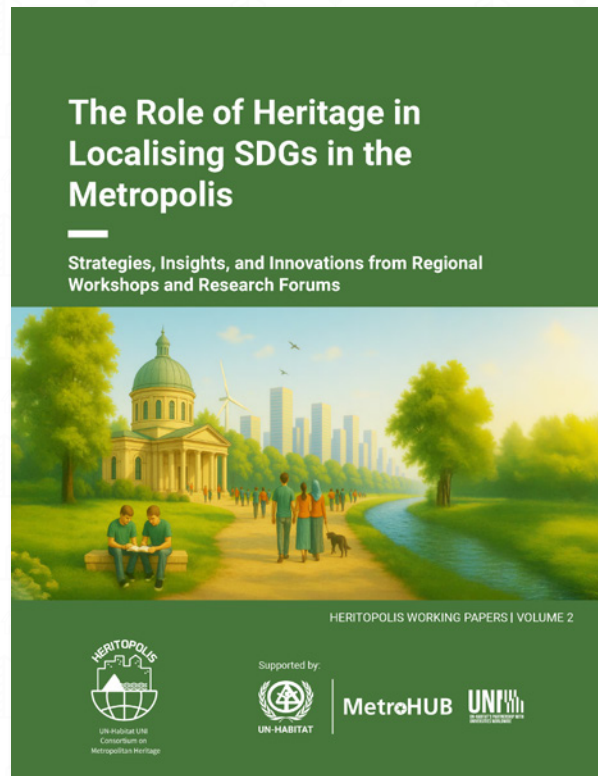
Moreover, with the metropolis becoming a dominant urban typology, the heritage values can support vibrant living and unique identities in the ever-growing conurbations. This demonstrates the key role that heritage, both natural and cultural, plays in supporting spatial sustainability and the symbiotic relationships.



UN-Habitat, 2025

70 pp.

Available in: English



ENG

## Including Waste Pickers in Metropolitan Waste Management

This document discusses the inclusion of waste pickers in metropolitan waste management systems, highlighting their roles, challenges, and recommendations for effective integration. Several ways to improve waste management in metropolitan areas are described in this publication, starting with the people who work in this sector. Waste pickers contribute to the circular economy by transforming waste into valuable resources and are key allies in the fight against climate change.

Essential concepts to understand metropolitan waste management are examined in the first chapter, followed by an exploration of some of the reasons for its current inefficiencies. The other sections respectively outline the work of waste pickers, including the advantages of their activities and their day-to-day struggles, defining the problem as “inefficiency and fragile waste picking”, and show the connections between waste picking and global agendas on sustainable development. The UN-Habitat MetroHUB initiatives, a holistic approach to promote the development of metropolitan areas, is introduced next.



UN-Habitat, 2025  
67 pp.  
Available in: English



## MetroHub Newsletter 2025-Issue 2

Dear Reader,

Welcome to the second edition of the MetroHUB newsletter!

Much has happened since the 1st edition was released in late 2023. This second issue begins with a recap of how metropolitan management featured at the World Urban Forum 12 last November in Cairo, Egypt. The newsletter then spotlights UN-Habitat recent work on metropolitan management, including capacity development initiatives, new normative tools and guides, and our advocacy efforts in 2024.

This MetroHUB newsletter features partner articles by Bogota-Cundinamarca Metropolitan Region, and Paris and Seoul Institutes. It concludes with an overview of what is to come next in UN-Habitat's work on metropolitan management.

Enjoy the read!



UN-Habitat, 2025  
67 pp.  
Available in: English



## Policy brief: Retos Globales, Soluciones Metropolitanas Metropolitan Solutions

On July 3–4, 2024, Barcelona became a hub for global innovation as experts gathered for the seminar “Retos Globales, Soluciones Metropolitanas”, hosted by the Institut Barcelona d’Estudis Internacionals (IBEI), the Barcelona Metropolitan Area (AMB), and UN-Habitat. The event aimed to address how metropolitan areas can tackle pressing global issues through governance, policy, and financing innovations.

Framed by the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, the seminar highlighted alarming findings: only 17% of the goals are expected to be fully achieved by 2030, with nearly half falling short. This stark reality underscores a growing need for localized solutions to global challenges.



UN-Habitat, 2024  
27 pp.  
Available in: English



## Metodología para Consolidación Metropolitana en Honduras

The document titled “Metodología para la Consolidación de Zonas Metropolitanas en Honduras” offers a comprehensive framework designed to promote the sustainable development of metropolitan areas in Honduras and other Central American countries. It focuses on fostering integrative metropolitan management systems to enhance both the functionality and competitiveness of Honduran cities.

This methodology provides clear steps and strategies for local, regional, and national authorities to effectively consolidate and manage metropolitan zones. It addresses key dimensions such as policy, legislation, governance, planning, and financing, offering a holistic approach to metropolitan development. Additionally, it zooms into the case of the Central Metropolitan Zone, presenting an integrative solution to address its ongoing metropolization process.



UN-Habitat, 2024  
50 pp.  
Available in: Spanish



## Voluntary Metropolitan Reviews: Climate Resilience and SDG 11 in Metropolitan Areas

The Voluntary Metropolitan Reviews (VMR) on climate resilience highlight the commitment of metropolitan areas to implementing solutions that address the targets of Sustainable Development Goal 11 (SDG 11), focused on ensuring inclusive, safe, resilient, and sustainable cities. In this collection of publications, the metropolitan areas of Guadalajara, Mexico, Valle de Aburrá, Colombia, and San Salvador, El Salvador have developed their VMRs, showcasing examples of leadership in metropolitan climate action with a particular focus on the key targets of SDG 11:

- Target 11.5: Reduce the number of deaths and people affected by climate disasters, and minimize economic losses.
- Target 11.6: Decrease the environmental impact of cities by improving air quality and waste management.
- Target 11.B: Increase the number of cities adopting policies to mitigate climate change and promote resilience to disasters.

These VMRs are not only valuable tools for measuring progress but also serve as guides for other metropolises looking to develop similar reports and advance the implementation of resilient and sustainable solutions. Through collaboration with UN-Habitat, these publications provide concrete examples that can inspire and guide other metropolitan areas in their efforts to combat climate change and achieve the SDGs.



## Voluntary Metropolitan Reviews: Sustainable Mobility and SDG 11 in Metropolitan Areas

The Voluntary Metropolitan Reviews (VMR) on sustainable mobility provide valuable examples of how metropolitan areas are aligning with Sustainable Development Goal 11 (SDG 11), particularly its focus on accessible and sustainable transport systems. These reports highlight strategies and best practices from the metropolitan areas of Guadalajara, Mexico, Valle de Aburrá, Colombia, and San Salvador, El Salvador.

The VMRs emphasize key SDG 11 targets, such as:

- Target 11.2: Ensuring access to safe, affordable, and sustainable transport systems for all, with a focus on public transportation.

These reports demonstrate how metropolitan management, governance structures, and funded projects have supported sustainable urbanization through improved mobility. For example, the Valle de Aburrá report details the expansion of public transport networks and the integration of eco-friendly solutions, while Guadalajara and San Salvador highlight governance innovation and public-private partnerships to enhance sustainable mobility.

These VMRs serve not only as practical guides but also as peer learning tools for other metropolitan regions seeking to improve their transport systems and advance SDG 11. Through collaboration with UN-Habitat, they provide a model for other cities to implement sustainable mobility solutions, reduce emissions, and promote collaborative governance around mobility.



## Voluntary Metropolitan Reviews: Green Public Spaces and SDG 11 in Metropolitan Areas

The Voluntary Metropolitan Reviews (VMR) on access to green public spaces showcase the efforts of key metropolitan areas in achieving the targets of Sustainable Development Goal 11 (SDG 11), which focuses on making cities inclusive, safe, resilient, and sustainable. Metropolitan areas such as Guadalajara, Mexico, Valle de Aburrá, Colombia, and San Salvador, El Salvador have developed these VMRs, highlighting significant progress in managing green and public spaces on a metropolitan scale.

These reviews address crucial SDG 11 targets, including:

- Target 11.7: Providing universal access to safe, inclusive, and accessible green and public spaces, particularly for vulnerable groups.

In San Salvador, the development of parks and green corridors has been essential to improving the connectivity of public spaces. The Metropolitan Area of San Salvador has prioritized projects that integrate nature into urban planning, creating green areas that help mitigate climate risks and enhance local resilience.

Guadalajara has focused on enhancing the accessibility and sustainability of its green spaces through the development of urban parks and ecological corridors, while Valle de Aburrá has promoted the integration of natural areas with the urban environment, fostering more inclusive and environmentally friendly development.



## Políticas urbanas y metropolitanas alineadas con la Agenda 2030

El curso “Políticas urbanas y metropolitanas alineadas con la Agenda 2030”, organizado en conjunto entre el Institut Barcelona d’Estudis Internacionals (IBEI), el Área Metropolitana de Barcelona (AMB) y ONU-Habitat, buscó presentar e involucrar a los participantes en los desafíos de las políticas, la gobernanza y la financiación de las ciudades y áreas metropolitanas.

Las sesiones fueron encabezadas por investigadores académicos, practitioners y consultores especializados, quienes discutieron problemas transversales a la gobernanza metropolitana y presentaron herramientas prácticas para abordarlos. El curso proveyó a los asistentes de perspectivas actualizadas sobre los principales desafíos y dinámicas en materia de gobernanza de las áreas urbanas, tendiendo puentes entre los niveles local e internacional y entre los enfoques académicos y la implementación práctica de las soluciones.



IBEI, AMB & UN-Habitat, 2023

23 pp.

Available in: Spanish



SPA

## MetroHub Newsletter 2023-Inaugural Issue

Dear Reader,

Welcome to the inaugural issue of this biannual newsletter on metropolitan management prepared by UN-Habitat along with several international metropolitan experts and partners. Under the theme “Unveiling Metropolitan Action” this piece comprises several inviting sections, articles, and stories.

It begins by featuring the highlights from the World Metropolitan Day 2023. Then, UN-Habitat’s recent progress made, and results achieved in the metropolitan projects, advocacy and partnerships are spotlight. The guest articles explore two timely topics: Heritage and the Metropolis and Multilevel Governance for better Metropolises. The newsletter also features Barcelona Metropolitan Area in the segment on “How are you managing the Metopolis?” This inaugural edition finalizes by sharing a snippet of what’s next in the metropolitan space.

Enjoy the read!



UN-Habitat, 2023  
Available in: English



ENG

## World Metropolitan Day 2023

World Metropolitan Day, a global campaign led by Metropolis and UN-Habitat, celebrated its fifth anniversary on 7 October 2023. The day commemorates the adoption of the Montreal Declaration on Metropolitan Areas, which was adopted in October 2015, and started in 2018 through WMD. Since its first edition, World Metropolitan Day has been an occasion to spark global debates on how to promote a better urban future in our metropolises.

This year, World Metropolitan Day was hosted in Istanbul, Türkiye, to explore how nature can transform metropolises. Mayors and metropolitan leaders from around the world gathered to share their experiences and visions on how to enhance the resilience of their metropolitan areas through nature-based solutions.



UN-Habitat and Metropolis, 2023

16 pp.

Available in: English



## Decision Making in Metropolitan Governance

Through this research of 22 case studies in the 5 regions of the world based on the regulatory frameworks of metropolitan management, UN-Habitat in collaboration with the Metropolitan Area of Barcelona, has identified the most important findings and trends on the regulation of decision-making in the metropolitan areas under study.

This guide explores the most significant aspects of decision-making systems in metropolitan governance, addressing affairs such as legitimacy, democratic participation, transparency and their impact on the management of metropolitan territories. It also offers practical tools based on international trends and case study findings to facilitate inclusive and equitable processes.

The case study identified key messages and policy recommendations, which seek to inspire and guide those who have the competence to make decisions on affairs of metropolitan interest, the authorities responsible for regulating metropolitan governance and the networks of cities and metropolises and stakeholders interested in metropolitan development, to promote and strengthen the formalization of governance mechanisms and the elements of the metropolitan decision-making system.

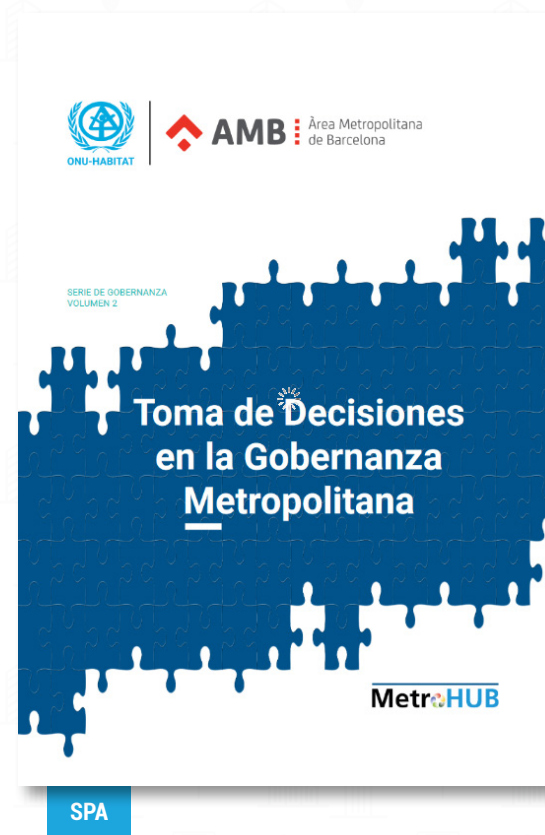


UN-Habitat, 2023

**HS Number:** HS/062/23F

94 pp.

Available in: Spanish



## Heritopolis Working Papers | Volume 1

Heritage and Metropolis (Heritopolis) is a loose research network established during 2021 to explore how metropolises are being (re-)shaped by heritage redefining their meaning. This largest category of city is growing rapidly in number and their demographic, economic and governance importance globally. Metropolises are also where many of the sustainability and resilience challenges – including potential loss of natural and cultural heritage – are particularly profound.

Recognising these dramatic changes, this research began by posing questions such as ‘What specific role heritage can play in 21st century metropolises?’ and ‘What are the limits of the current heritage paradigms and how metropolitan authorities can change them?’ The work undertaken to date, including the initial analysis of a first baseline survey reported here, confirms the validity of the initial hypothesis: that there is indeed a need to delve deeper into the nature of metropolitan identities and that this is likely to bring significant innovation in the heritage field as an enabler for sustainable development.

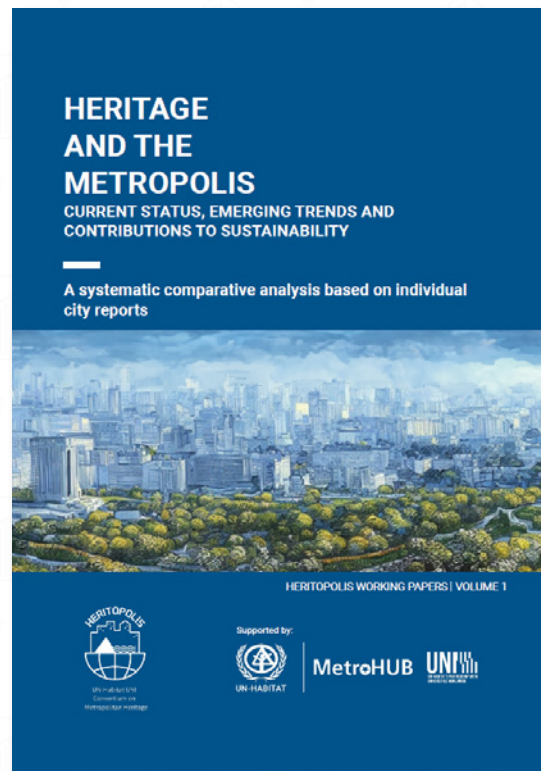
Access Heritopolis newsletters: [2023 December](#) | [2024 January](#)



UN-Habitat, MetroHub & Heritopolis 2023

28 pp.

Available in: English



ENG

## Horizon 2030, Metropolitan Solutions To Global Challenges

UN-Habitat has supported the Metropolitan Area of Barcelona along with a diverse group of international experts to conceptualise metropolitan solutions, as well as to identify the first series of metropolitan solutions already boosting the implementation of the New Urban Agenda and serving the territorialisation of Sustainable Development Goals at metropolitan level.



Area Metropolitana de Barcelona, 2022

19 pp.

Available in: English

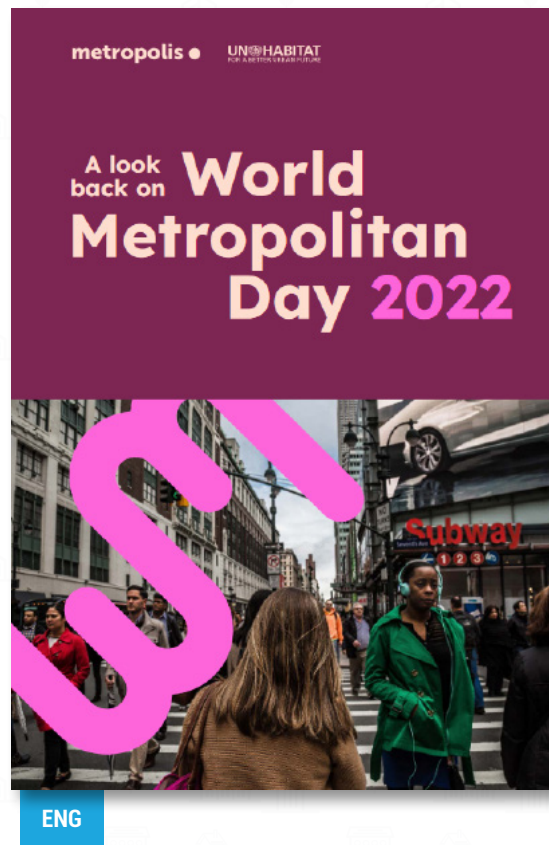


## A look back on World Metropolitan Day 2022

The 2022 World Metropolitan Day in this important Urban October comes at a time when we are facing many challenges. Global challenges, from the climate crisis and health to achieving an equitable society, must be successfully addressed in urban areas. Since these challenges do not recognize administrative boundaries, the metropolitan scale is becoming increasingly prominent to respond to the needs of people and communities all over the world. The theme of this year's World Metropolitan Day 'Crossing Boundaries', reminds us to be brave to tackle the complexity of territorial dynamics taking place on an inter-jurisdictional space and the urban-rural continuum.



UN-Habitat, 2022  
20 pp.  
Available in: English



## Gestión Metropolitana Integrada - El caso del Área Metropolitana de San Salvador

El Área Metropolitana de San Salvador (AMSS) tiene 14 municipios con aproximadamente 1,8 millones de habitantes viviendo en un territorio de 610 Km<sup>2</sup> (Figura 1). El AMSS es la única metrópoli de El Salvador y de Centroamérica que cuenta con arreglos institucionales, un marco legal propio e instrumentos de planificación para abordar la gestión territorial a escala metropolitana. El Consejo de Alcaldes del Área Metropolitana de San Salvador (COAMSS) es el principal órgano de gobierno, mientras que la Oficina de Planificación (OPAMSS) se constituye como la autoridad técnica metropolitana.



UN-Habitat, 2022

**HS Number:** HS/014/21S

48 pp., 176 x 297 mm

Available in: Spanish

## 1st Global State of Metropolis - Preliminary Findings and Key Messages Booklet - EN, ES

As the world continues to urbanize it is also becoming metropolitan. Whether horizontal spreading, dispersed urbanization or periurbanization, the physical extent of urban areas is growing much faster than their population, thereby consuming more land for urban development. Those phenomena have made many cities grown beyond the boundaries of their central municipality or "city proper" configuring bigger and denser metropolises. This is a trend still present in all world regions and affecting all kind and size of cities, from megacities, to intermediate cities and even small towns.

However, most of the world's metropolises are not managed in a differentiated way, meaning they do not have neither a metropolitan plan nor institution, configuring a global metropolitan management gap. In addition, existing metropolitan management systems are currently unbalanced. While several metropolises have advanced their governance arrangements and planning instruments, the financing mechanisms both for implementing projects with metropolitan impact and maintaining metropolitan institutions working properly, are highly relegated. For their part, metropolitan policies and legal frameworks are emerging in many parts of the world.



Spanish



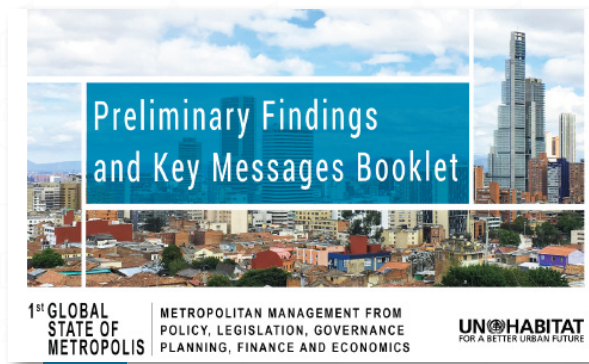
English

UN-Habitat, 2022

20 pp.

**HS Number:** HS/020/22E

SPA



ENG

## Declaration of Metropolitan Areas "Global State of Metropolis"

In the City of Medellín, Colombia, on the seventeenth and eighteenth days of October, 2019, the representatives of the following Metropolitan Areas being present at the EXPERTS GROUP MEETING "Global State of Metropolis 2020": the Metropolitan Community of Montreal (Canada), the Metropolitan Area of Barcelona (Spain), the Metropolitan Area of Guadalajara (Mexico), the Metropolitan Area of Ensenada (Mexico), the Metropolitan Area of San Salvador (El Salvador), the Metropolitan District of Quito (Ecuador), the Metropolitan Area of Kanata (Bolivia), the Metropolitan Area of Santa Cruz de la Sierra (Bolivia), the Metropolitan Area of Grand Bamako (Mali), the Metropolitan Area of Cairo (Egypt), the Metropolitan Area of Centro Occidente (Colombia), the Metropolitan Area of Valledupar (Colombia), the Metropolitan Area of Valle de Aburrá (Colombia), with the accompaniment of Specialists of the Academy and being present high-level officials of UN-Habitat, METROPOLIS and officials of the National Governments of Colombia and Bolivia made a declaration of Metropolitan areas "Global State of Metropolis".



UN-Habitat, 2020

3 pp., 210 x 297 mm

Available in: English, French, Spanish



## Global State of Metropolis 2020 - Expert Group Meeting Report. Abu Dhabi-UAE, February 8th, 2020

Abu Dhabi's Experts Group Meeting on the Global State of Metropolis followed the international dialogue settled in Medellin in October 2019 between development actors to propose and define conceptual approaches, methodologies, contents, case studies and inspiring experiences for structuring a global report on metropolitan management and development.

### EGM Key Expectations

- Present and validate the structure and outline of the Global State of Metropolis Report, as well as to receive last proposals and inputs for the outline's final draft.
- Present and validate the sample of metropolises for the case studies that will be included within the Global State of Metropolis Report. Also, propose new metropolises to be included in the sample and a series of criteria to classify them.
- Showcase and identify inspiring experiences on metropolitan management to be included in the Global State of Metropolis Report.
- Present the alliance between UN-Habitat and Metropolis as well as a jointly workplan for the preparation of the Global State of Metropolis Report.



UN-Habitat February 8th, 2020  
15 pp., 210 x 297 mm  
Available in: English



ENG

## Global State of Metropolis 2020: Population Data Booklet

In 2020 there are 1934 metropolises with more than 300,000 inhabitants representing approximately 60% of the world's urban population. At least 2.59 billion people live in metropolises in 2020 which is equivalent to one third of the global population. 34 metropolises have surpassed 10 million inhabitants; while 51 have a population of 5 to 10 million; 494 of 1 to 5 million; and 1355 of 300,000 to 1 million.

This Data Booklet uses the urban agglomerations' datasets from the 2018 revision of WUP to analyse both global and regional metropolitan trends among the United Nations Regional Groups. This Booklet is in support to the preparation of the forthcoming UN-Habitat Global State of Metropolis Report.

Find out what metropolitan global experts project to happen by 2035!



ENG



UN-Habitat, 2020

**HS Number:** HS/013/20E

22 pp, 210 x 148 mm

Available in: English

## Herramientas de MetroHUB: Instituciones Metropolitanas Bases para la estructuración y gestión de la autoridad metropolitana

UN-Habitat, through its MetroHUB initiative, presents this Guide on Metropolitan Institutions to provide information on how they can structure and implement supra-municipal scale institutions. This Guide targets the metropolitan level institutions, authorities or agencies and it highlights how metropolitan institutions are important for effective territorial management and competitiveness. The Guide also presents the metropolitan typology, characteristics, objectives, functions, structure, management tools and recommendations. It also promotes an understanding for its users, of how metropolitan institutions think, plan and deploy strategies for territorial competitiveness and the improvement of the quality of life of the metropolis inhabitants.

This Guide shows how metropolitan institutions can facilitate territorial management, make use of resources more efficiently through territorial coordination and complementarity, identify the vision of integrated development, and implement policies that respond to the inter-sectorial issues and articulate the multi-level governance framework and successfully execute projects. The Guide outlines the role of metropolitan areas in addressing inter-municipality challenges.



English

page | 208



Spanish

UN-Habitat, 2020

103 pp., 210 x 297 mm

**HS Number:** HS/020/20S

Available in: Spanish



SPA

ENG

## Herramientas de MetroHUB: Metodologías Gestión y Planificación Metropolitana

UN-Habitat, through its MetroHUB initiative, presents this Guide on “Metropolitan Management and Planning Methodologies”. This Guide will help strengthen the capacities and competences of the governments, authorities and local actors that are tackling the metropolitan phenomenon.

MetroHUB Methodologies give metropolitan actors a set of tools to increase greater understanding of the metropolitan territorial dynamics. It is expected that the proposed methods would lead metropolitan authorities to propose ideas to better plan, govern, finance and manage metropolitan areas, generating skills that lead them to formulate territorial development strategies in accordance with the realities of the metropolises and regions. The tools are developed based on the principle of the integration of territorial management, taking advantage of the advantages of urbanization.

MetroHUB methodologies address topics such as:

- Participatory Planning
- Metropolitan Vision and Management
- Metropolitan Innovation

Metropolitan Interdependencies



Spanish



Arabic

UN-Habitat, 2020  
114 pp., 210 x 297 mm



## Herramientas de MetroHUB: Observatorios Metropolitanos Guía para la Estructuración e Implementación

UN-Habitat, through its MetroHUB initiative, presents this Guide on “Metropolitan Observatories”, with the purpose of offering ideas on how to manage and generate metropolitan knowledge. Metropolitan observatories contribute to co-building sustainable metropolitan development, by producing quality information and analysis documents and monitoring metropolitan dynamics to assess progress in sustainable territorial development.

The tool provides technical guidance to strengthen capacities in planning and metropolitan development management as well as to improve the urbanization process at a global level within the framework of its vision for «a better quality of life for all in a world in the process of urbanization».

This Guide contains information on conceptualization and characterization of a metropolitan observatory, the basic elements of its structure, the qualities of the information it produces, the focus, themes and sources of its indicators, and a route for its design and implementation.



English

page | 210



Spanish

UN-Habitat, 2020  
79 pp., 210 x 297 mm



SPA

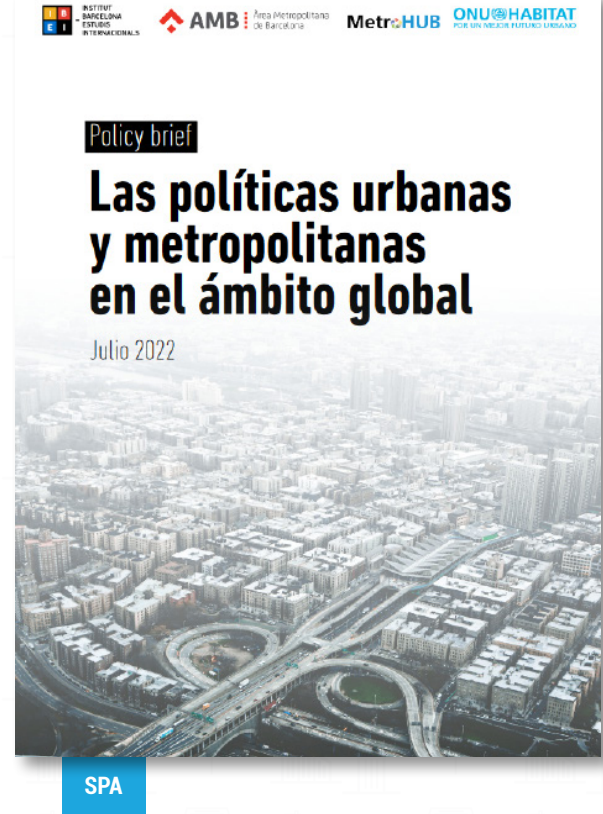
ENG

## Policy Brief-Seminario Políticas Urbanas 2022

El seminario “Las políticas urbanas y metropolitanas en el ámbito global”, organizado en conjunto entre el Institut Barcelona d’Estudis Internacionals (IBEI), el Área Metropolitana de Barcelona (AMB) y ONU-Hábitat, buscó familiarizar a los participantes con una visión general de los principales retos de la gobernanza de las áreas urbanas. A cargo de investigadores del IBEI y especialistas de ONU-Hábitat, el curso combinó la perspectiva académica con la práctica, identificando procesos y tendencias internacionales relevantes para las autoridades locales y metropolitanas. Las sesiones ofrecieron métodos para pensar los desafíos que enfrentan las ciudades desde una perspectiva global, considerando las dinámicas que están definiendo la realidad política y social del siglo XXI.



UN-Habitat, 2020  
114 pp., 210 x 297 mm  
Available in: Spanish



## The Matrix of Functions to Strengthen Integrated Territorial Development in Maputo Metropolitan Area

The Spatial Development Framework (SDF) is a participatory regional spatial planning method to support national, regional and local government decision-making processes on where to prioritize investments. The methodology combines three main spatial planning tools that can be easily adapt to the specific context in which it is being used.

This report aims to present the results of the main SDF tool, the Matrix of Functions (MoF), which serve as a pilot for adapting this methodology to the Mozambican context and more specifically to the context of urban metropolitan areas. Moreover, it provides the basis for the definition of a work plan for a study that includes the whole country to support policies related to urbanization and national transformation., such as the forthcoming implementation of a National Urban Policy.

The Matrix of Function in this case has been implemented in Maputo Metropolitan Area. Formed by four cities, namely Maputo, Matola, Boane and Marracuene.



UN-Habitat, República de Moçambique, ACCD, 2020  
 22 pp., 210 x 297 mm  
 Available in: English



ENG

## Governance Assessment Framework for Metropolitan Territorial and Regional Management (GAF-MTR)

The Governance Assessment Framework for Metropolitan, Territorial and Regional Management (GAF-MTR) and its two-step assessment tools present an analytical and practical vision of governance. They propose the understanding of governance as a complex process in which institutional solutions, decision-making and collective action must work together. Furthermore, the GAF-MTR defines governance factors that, when properly managed and improved, serve to enable and advance territorial management from supra-municipal scales.

The GAF-MTR draws from inspiring practices on the establishment of institutional and decision-making arrangements for territorial management at supra-municipal scales. Case studies include Valle de Aburrá in Colombia; San Salvador; Montreal in Canada; London; Barcelona in Spain; Bratislava; Johannesburg in South Africa; and Singapore. These examples show how to provide integrative territorial governance frameworks involving fit-for-purpose institutional solutions, representative decision-making processes and collective actions.

The GAF-MTR includes: i) The Metropolitan, Territorial and Regional Governance Assessment Tool; and ii) The Metropolitan, Territorial and Regional Governance Scorecard, as a two-step qualitative tool containing a series of criteria and guiding questions for assessing institutional, political and instrumental dimensions of territorial governance in metropolises and regions.



English



Spanish



Arabic

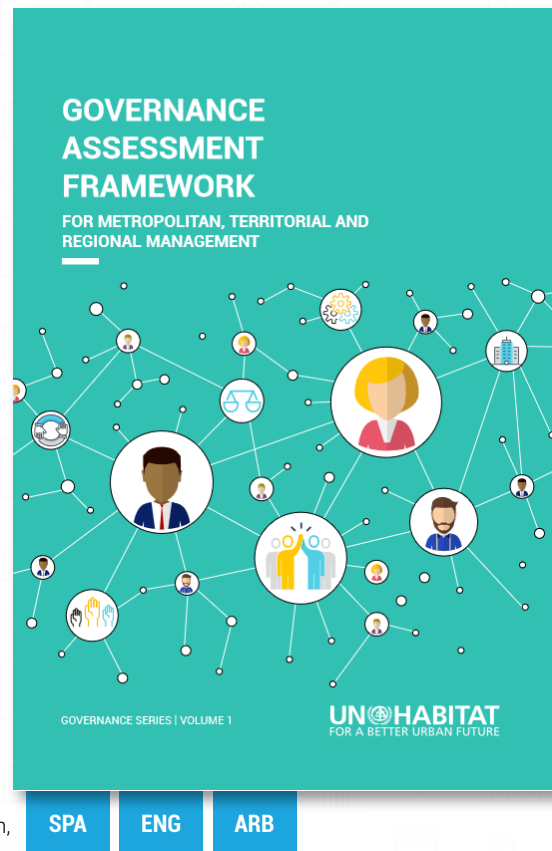
UN-Habitat, 2020

**HS Number:** HS/013/20E

80 pp, 210 x 148 mm

Available in: English, Spanish,

Arabic



## Global State of Metropolis 2020-Experts Group Meeting Report- Medellin, Colombia, Oct 17-18, 2019

The first Experts Group Meeting (EGM) on the Global State of Metropolis served as an international dialogue amongst a diverse group of metropolitan institutions, metropolitan authorities, academia and international networks from Latin America, North America, Europe and Africa. The meeting proposed and defined conceptual approaches, methodologies, contents, case studies and inspiring experiences for the upcoming Global State of Metropolis Report.

### EGM Key Expectations

- Exchange on existing conceptual approaches for the analysis of metropolitan development, as well as methodologies for multiscale territorial management.
- Define criteria to establish a global sample of metropolises for the case studies that will be included in the Global Report and the essential categories for structuring those case studies.
- Showcase and identify a sample of inspiring experiences on metropolitan management to be included in the Global Report.
- Define the roadmap for preparing the Global Report.



English  
page | 214



[Spanish](#)

UN-Habitat, 2019  
25pp, 176 x 250 mm



ENG

SPA

## Synergy between Airports and Urban Development for Sustainable Development: Concept Note

This concept note is a joint initiative of ICAO and UN-Habitat to:

Identify global good practices and principles in urban and regional planning and management around air transport infrastructure that can be applied to help sustainably develop air transport infrastructure and services to achieve airport city (ies) development axis (corridors).

Assess and document the trends in and impacts of airports and air traffic on land use around the airport and along the airport-city corridor in selected airports to track land use changes and compliance to urban planning regulations, its related socio-economic and ecological impacts to sustainable urban development.

Develop conceptual, methodological and operational spatial and visualization frameworks that will highlight the role of airport systems (infrastructure and services) to urban development beyond the city, along the airport-city axis and the airport-rural area trajectory; and study the synergistic relations to sustainable development.



UN-Habitat & ICAO, 2019

**HS Number:** HS/087/18E

**ISBN Number:** (Volume) 978-92-1-132822-6

62 pp., 210 x 297 mm

Available in: English



ENG

## Policy Makers Training on County Spatial Planning for Kenya

The capacity building exercise on county spatial planning for policy makers from counties in Kenya was conducted from 28th to 30th March at the Panari Hotel in Nairobi county, where 30 participants from 23 counties attended. The Organizers of the course included UN-Habitat, National Land Commission (NLC), the Ministry of Lands and Physical Planning (MoLPP), Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO), Council of Governors (CoG), County Assemblies Forum (CAF) and the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP).

The exercise was designed to strengthen capacities of policy makers on spatial planning; enable them to acquire knowledge and professional competence which would help them to participate more actively in spatial planning and eventually, economic and social development of their counties; and to increase their ability to solve practical challenges related to county spatial planning.



UN-Habitat, 2019

**HS Number:** HS/056/19E

56pp, 176 x 250 mm

Available in: English

## POLICY MAKERS TRAINING ON COUNTY SPATIAL PLANNING FOR KENYA

28<sup>th</sup> - 30<sup>th</sup> March 2019 - Panari Hotel, Nairobi



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Food and Agriculture  
Organization of the  
United Nations



## Aproximaciones a la prosperidad urbana: El caso del Área metropolitana de Bucaramanga

En 1981 el Área Metropolitana de Bucaramanga (AMB) fue creada por mutuo acuerdo entre Bucaramanga, Floridablanca y Girón. Se acordó la creación de una entidad administrativa que gestionara las relaciones funcionales que en materia social, ambiental, económica, demográfica y cultural, existían entre dichos municipios<sup>1</sup>.

En 1984, el municipio de Piedecuesta se adhirió a esta iniciativa, consolidando así un territorio funcional en el que aproximadamente viven 1.2 millones de personas según datos de 2018 de su Observatorio Metropolitano.



SPA



AMB & UN-Habitat, 2018

**HS Number:** HS/082/18S

**ISBN Number (Volume):** 978-92-1-132818-9

64 pp, 176 x 250 mm

Available in: Spanish

## The Bicycle as a Means of Transportation - Strategy for Bucaramanga and its Metropolitan Area (in Spanish)

The Strategy as a mean of transportation for Bucaramanga and its Metropolitan Area was born in 2015, and proposes a new paradigm of sustainable mobility, which seeks to requalify urban living under the guidelines of urban prosperity, improving the quality of life for all and “not leaving anyone behind”, as proclaimed in the Sustainable Development Agenda 2030.



AMB & UN-Habitat, 2018  
98 pp, 176 x 250 mm  
Available in: Spanish



SPA

## MetroHUB: Supporting metropolitan development

The MetroHUB is an integrated approach for supporting metropolitan areas and systems of cities towards sustainable development. It has evolved over several years, based on prior work and in dialogue with experts from different teams within UN-Habitat, but also in consultation with many global partners.

This publication provides relevant background information such as UNHabitat's mandate on the subject and selected global frameworks. It showcases projects, plans and strategies from different parts of the world. More importantly the publication introduces the MetroHUB "initiative" with its central concept of combining planning, governance, finance and socio-environmental components with capacity development and tangible "acupuncture" projects.

Conceptualized with five pillars ("Learn, Share, Disseminate, Develop, and Apply"), the MetroHUB offers a wide range of activities and this paper outlines some of them. This publication is highly relevant for urban experts working on metropolitan development with the expectation of achieving real change through an integrated approach: the MetroHUB.



UN-Habitat, 2018

**HS Number:** HS/071/18E

80pp, 176 x 250 mm

Available in: English



### MetroHUB

Supporting metropolitan development

**UN HABITAT**  
FOR A BETTER URBAN FUTURE

ENG

## Steering the Metropolis: Metropolitan Governance for Sustainable Urban Development

A distinctive feature of urbanization in the last 50 years is the expansion of urban populations and built development well beyond what was earlier conceived as the city limit, resulting in metropolitan areas. This is challenging the relevance of traditional municipal boundaries, and by extension, traditional governing structures and institutions. "Steering the Metropolis: Metropolitan Governance for Sustainable Urban Development," encompasses the reflections of thought and practice leaders on the underlying premises for governing metropolitan space, sectoral adaptations of those premises, and dynamic applications in a wide variety of contexts.

Those reflections are structured into three sections. Section 1 discusses the conceptual underpinnings of metropolitan governance, analyzing why political, technical, and administrative arrangements at this level of government are needed. Section 2 deepens the discussion by addressing specific sectoral themes of mobility, land use planning, environmental management, and economic production, as well as crosscutting topics of metropolitan governance finance, and monitoring and evaluation. Section 3 tests the concepts and their sectoral adaptations against the practice, with cases from Africa, America, Asia, and Europe.



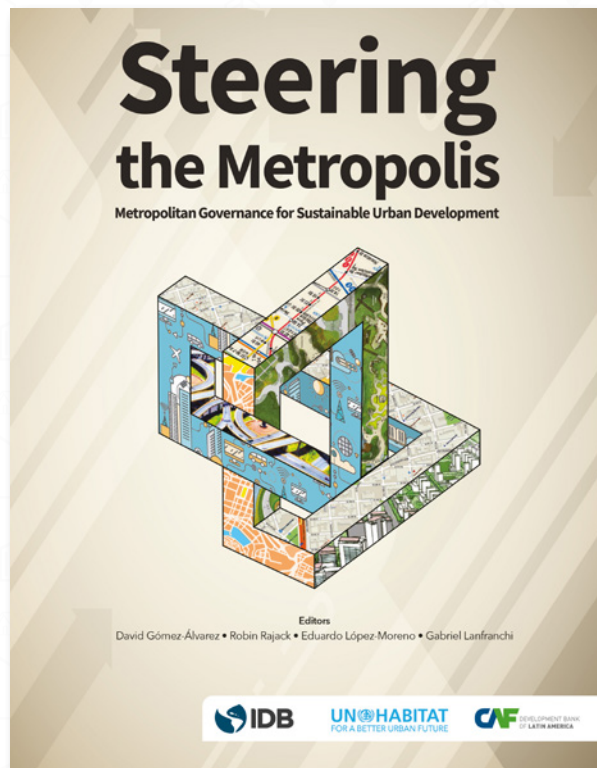
UN-Habitat 2016

**ISBN Number** (Paperback): 978-1-59782-310-4

**ISBN Number** (PDF): 978-1-59782-311-1

448 pp, 176 x 250 mm

Available in: English



ENG



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## County Spatial Planning Course: Training Report 1 & 2

Land is inelastic yet has many competing uses which in some cases are in conflict. To achieve organized, integrated, sustainable and balanced development and reap maximum benefits from land, it must be properly managed. County spatial plans provide not only a spatial structure that defines how land could be utilized to ensure optimal and sustainable use, but also provides a guide for development planning for the counties. However, weak technical capacities and lack of appropriate technical skills continue to slow down the spatial plans development process.

The report is timely for county governments in Kenya, given their requirement by the County Governments Act 2012 to set out basic guidelines for land use management system in the county and the need to further articulate and propagate physical planning policies as spelt out in the Kenya National Spatial Plans (2015-2045) which details the national spatial vision to guide the long term spatial development of the country for the next 30 years.

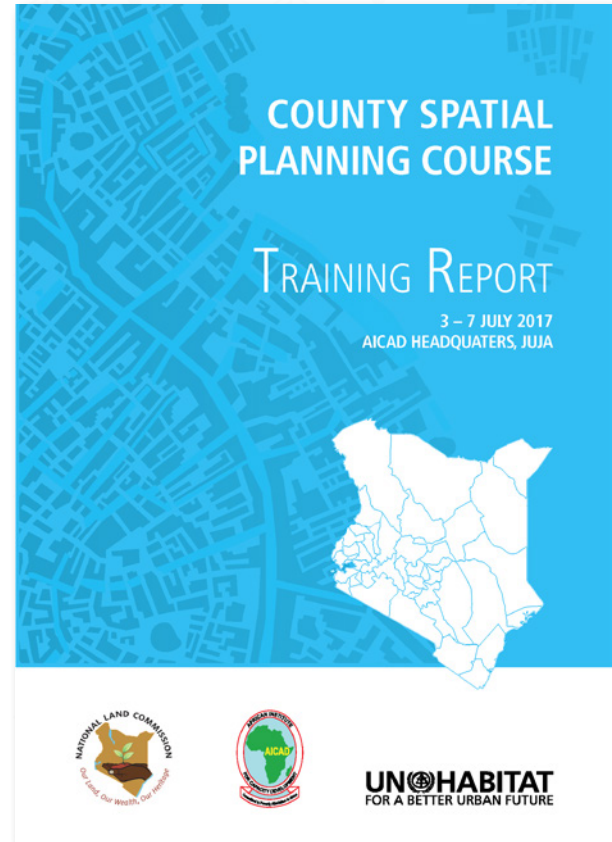


UN-Habitat, 2017

**HS Number:** HS/077/16E

52 pp., 210 x 297 mm

Available in: English



ENG

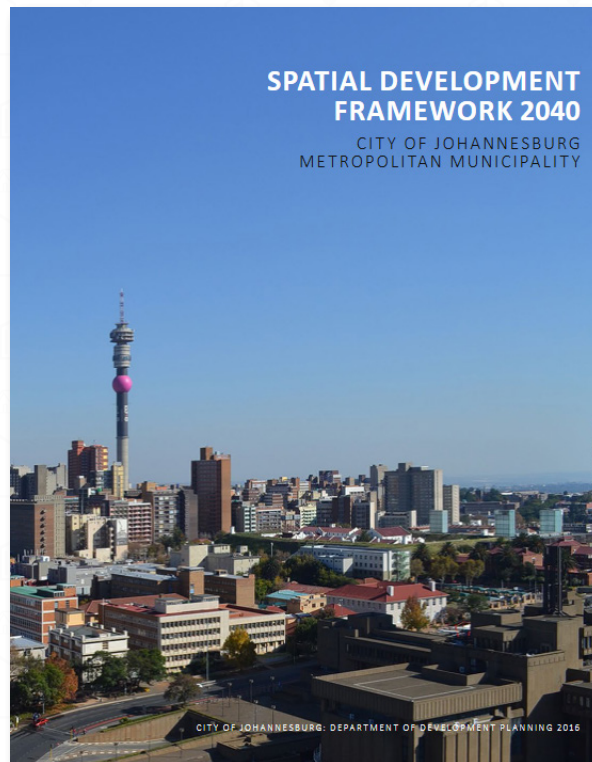
## Spatial Development Framework 2040: City of Johannesburg Metropolitan Municipality

The Spatial Development Framework 2040 for Johannesburg is a city-wide spatial policy document developed by the City of Johannesburg in collaboration with The Urban Planning and Design Lab from UN-Habitat, Iyer Urban Design Studio and Urban the Morphology & Complex Systems Institute. The document identifies the main challenges and opportunities in the city, setting a spatial vision for the future city, and outlining a set of strategies that to realize that vision. The core objective of the SDF 2040 is to 'create a spatially just world class African city'. The SDF 2040 is premised on the notion of spatial transformation, defined through the principles of equity, justice, resilience, sustainability and urban efficiency which this SDF seeks to translate into a development policy. The SDF was developed through a participatory process gathering opinions from a wide range of stakeholders.

The SDF is not a static master plan; rather, it is a dynamic model of strategic planning that will be cyclically reviewed, adjusting the focus and direction based on city.



UN-Habitat, 2016  
174 pp, 176 x 250 mm  
Available in: English



ENG

## DIME TU PLAN: Plan Integral de Desarrollo para el periodo 2016-2026

En el 2016 el Área Metropolitana de Bucaramanga se consolidará como un territorio próspero que ha logrado su desarrollo territorial desde un enfoque multidimensional, superando los límites del desarrollo puramente económico al garantizar altos niveles de equidad, inclusión social y calidad de vida para sus habitantes.



AMB & UN-Habitat, 2016  
200 pp., 176 x 250 mm  
Available in: Spanish



SPA

## Metropolitan Governance: A Framework for Capacity Assessment. Guidance Notes and Toolbox

UN-Habitat and GIZ have developed the Metropolitan Capacity Assessment Methodology (MetroCAM) as a joint contribution to implement urban sustainable development agendas and bring them to the metropolitan scale. It complements the Unpacking Metropolitan Governance series.

With this modular toolbox, urban stakeholders are able to assess existing capacity in a metropolitan setting, future needs, and potential trigger points and finally identify options for change. By tackling a particular metropolitan challenge, the MetroCAM provides instruments and incentives for municipalities to cooperate beyond administrative boundaries. The MetroCAM is also a process to foster dialogue and build consensus.

The first part of the methodology illustrates the required initial steps for a successful assessment, covering aspects like the composition of the assessment team, finding consensus on the most pressing metropolitan challenge and sequencing activities based on resource and time constraints. The heart of the methodology comprises of 12 tools – a bouquet of options which can be selected regarding the specific needs and challenges.

The methodology is primarily directed to local and regional governments' representatives willing to drive the change and engages urban practitioners, metropolitan actors, researchers and development organisations.



English



French



Spanish

GIZ & UN-Habitat, 2016  
80 pp., 176 x 250 mm



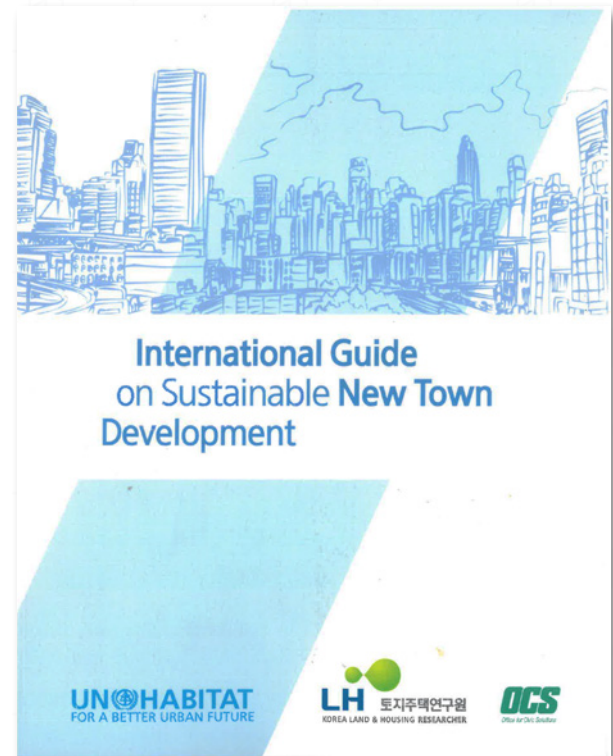
## International Guide on Sustainable New Town Development for Implementation of the New Urban Agenda

UN-Habitat and the Korea Land & Housing Corporation (LH) have agreed on working together for promoting sustainable urban development in developing countries, with a focus on sharing expertise and developing an international policy guide on New Town and affordable housing development.

Korea Land & Housing Corporation is a state-owned enterprise in Korea. It was established to spearhead the improvement of the quality of life and development of the national economy through the realization of stable housing and the efficient utilization of the national land. Its expertise lies in supplying decent and affordable housing units to the vulnerable to improve their residential environment as well as developing housing land, new towns, and innovative cities.



UN-Habitat, Korea Land & Housing Corporation, & Office for Civic Solutions, 2016  
144pp, 176 x 250 mm  
Available in: English



ENG

## Unpacking Metropolitan Governance for Sustainable Development: Analysis of Case Studies: Summary Reports of Case Studies

This case study analysis forms part of the publication series “Unpacking metropolitan governance” that documents experiences and gives hands-on approaches for stakeholders in the field of sustainable development of metropolitan regions.

The analysis and the summary reports of the case studies of Metropolitan Bandung (Indonesia), Guadalajara Metropolitan Area (Mexico) and e-Thekwini (Durban, South Africa) are following the joint publication of the discussion paper “Unpacking Metropolitan Governance for Sustainable Development”, UN-Habitat, GIZ and FMDV encourage a critical and intensive discussion among policy makers and practitioners about the findings and recommendations offered by the discussion paper, case study reports, and analyses.

The publication series shall serve as a reference point for the ongoing international discussion on transforming urbanization, implementing the Sustainable Development Goals at the local and metropolitan level and thereby contribute to the Habitat III debate.

In addition, GIZ and UN-Habitat have developed a Metropolitan Capacity Assessment Methodology as a modular toolbox to assess existing capacity in a metropolitan setting, future needs, and identify options for change.



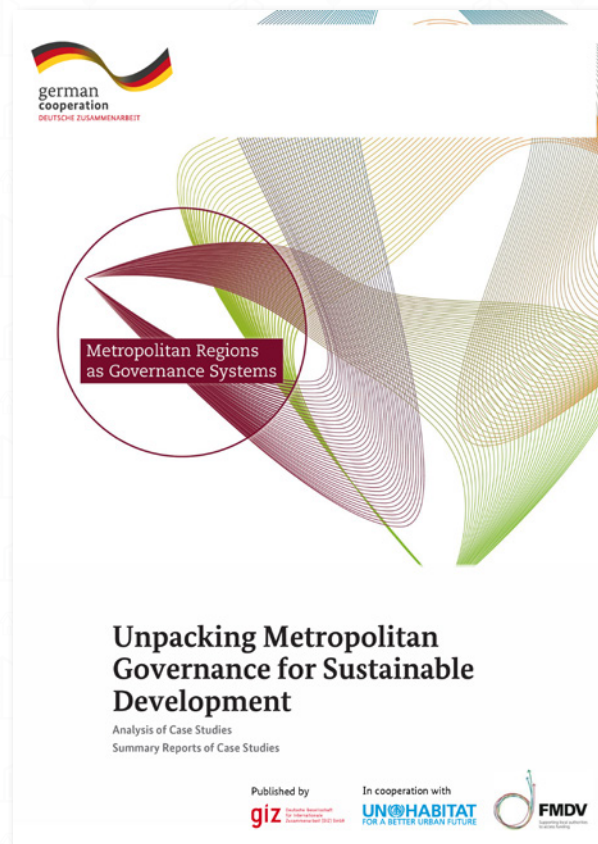
GIZ & UN-Habitat, 2016

**ISBN Series Number:** 978-92-1-133398-5

**ISBN Number:** 978-92-1-132462-4

64 pp, 176 x 250 mm

Available in: English



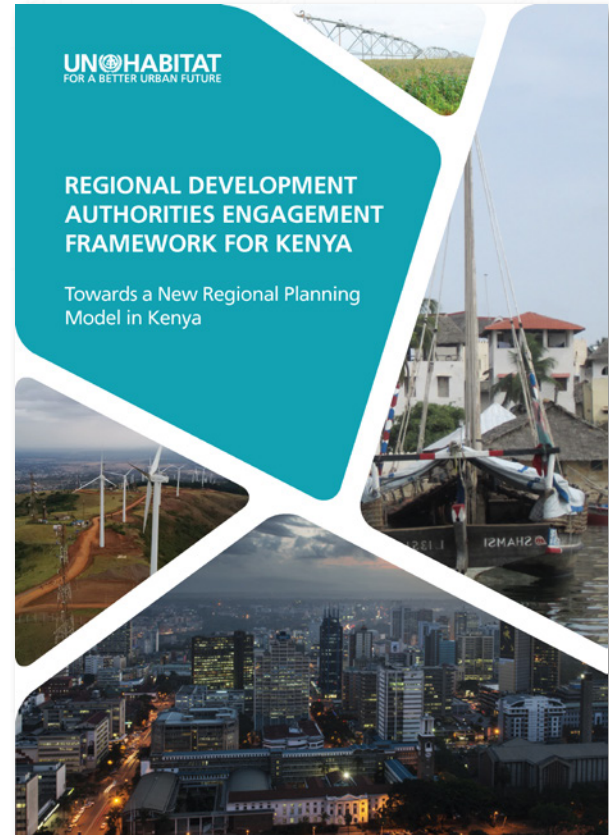
## Regional Development Authorities Engagement Framework for Kenya Towards a New Regional Planning Model in Kenya

This publication addresses fundamental issues in regional development giving emphasis on operational challenges of the RDAs and how they can effectively harness opportunities created by the new constitution to align their functions and mandates towards regional development.

It further gives an analysis on the importance of RDAs engaging with UN-Habitat with a wide experience in regional and metropolitan planning issues towards addressing planning, social, economic, environmental and institutional challenges hindering their competitiveness. Strategies, mechanisms and tools of linking and working with national and sub-national governments as well as other relevant development sectors are referred.



UN-Habitat, 2016  
40 pp, 210 x 297 mm  
Available in: English



ENG

## Unpacking Metropolitan Governance for Sustainable Development

This joint publication “Unpacking Metropolitan Governance for Sustainable Development” is the product of a close cooperation between GIZ and UN-Habitat. Against the background of rapid urbanization, new forms of power relations between the different levels of government emerge and stronger coordination and cooperation is required.

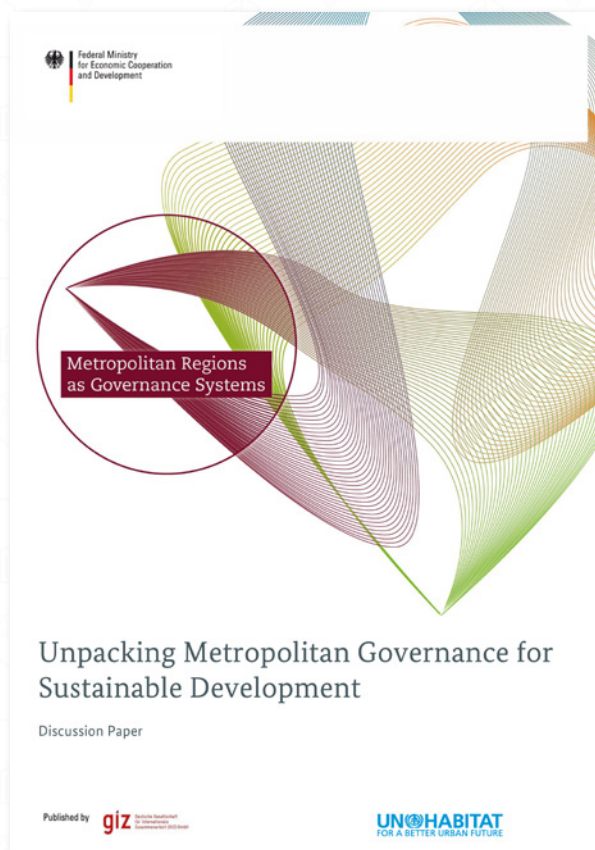
GIZ and UN-Habitat are both convinced that effective metropolitan governance is crucial for transformative development, considering social, political, economic and environmental impacts. While the subsidiarity principle is still valid and valuable, some decisions are most effectively implemented at a metropolitan level that follows the functional area. Climate change, natural disasters or economic development do not stop at administrative boundaries, hence joint action needs to be taken.

Infrastructure needs can be better solved through joint forces and coordination between administrations and different stakeholders. This study shall give insights into ways metropolitan regions are governed and how it relates with the good urban governance principles.

In addition, GIZ and UN-Habitat have developed a Metropolitan Capacity Assessment Methodology as a modular toolbox to assess existing capacity in a metropolitan setting, future needs, and identify options for change.



GIZ & UN-Habitat, 2015  
78 pp., 176 x 250 mm  
Available in: English



ENG

## PLAM2035 Sistematización del Plan del Área Metropolitana de Lima-Callao 2035

El área metropolitana de Lima y Callao planea su futuro en pasos de dos décadas. El Plan Metropolitano de Desarrollo Urbano de Lima y Callao 2035 (PLAM 2035) es el siguiente paso para el planeamiento urbano de los próximos veinte años y está basado en el Plan Metropolitano de Desarrollo Urbano 1990-2010. El PLAM 2035 proporciona un conjunto de herramientas y plantea un modelo de urbe próspera y sostenible, sobre cuya base se deberá construir la ciudad que conmemorará los 500 años de su fundación española, justamente en el año 2035.



SPA



UN-Habitat, 2015  
33 pp, 176 x 250 mm  
Available in: Spanish

## County Engagement Framework for Kenya: Existing Planning Model Gaps and Opportunities for Engagement

This document discusses the existing legislation relating to Urban and Regional Planning in Kenya with a view to highlighting the opportunities and gaps that can be harnessed in respect to international, regional, national and county planning legal and regulatory framework, and planning processes.

It aims at providing a nexus for engagement with the County governments of Kenya, to advance sustainable urban and rural settlements and promote the utilization of urban-rural linkages for eventual sustainable county development.

The review of the current planning legal and policy framework examines various local and international policies, laws and regulations that affect planning at the national and county level. The outputs include an outline of viable entry points for collaboration with county governments in Kenya to develop integrated and sustainable county and urban development plans.



UN-Habitat, 2015

**HS Number:** HS/029/16E

36 pp., 210 x 297 mm

Available in: English



## Balance De La Estrategia De Integracion Regional Del Distrito Capital

La Estrategia de Integración Regional de la Ciudad contiene su apuesta de relacionamiento con la región, la cual ha sido implementada durante los 4 años de este gobierno. Su formulación parte de una mirada al entorno regional y de un reconocimiento de las relaciones de interdependencia existentes en el territorio. La estrategia toma como base lo establecido en el Plan de Ordenamiento Territorial (Decreto 190 de 2004) y en el Plan Distrital de Desarrollo Bogotá Humana 2012 - 2016,

documentos que permiten reconocer las prioridades en materia de integración regional. En este marco se establece una estrategia multiescalar que explora, en primer lugar, la escala de borde que tiene en cuenta a Bogotá con su entorno inmediato; en segundo lugar, la escala subregional que incluye a Cundinamarca y sus 116 municipios, y finalmente, una escala regional que trasciende a 4 departamentos: Cundinamarca, Boyacá, Meta y Tolima.



UN-Habitat, 2015  
70 pp, 210 x 297 mm  
Available in: Spanish



SPA

## El Camino Hacia La Armonizacion Tributaria En La Sabana De Bogota

Bogotá reconoce que su desarrollo no se encuentra aislado al de sus vecinos, las dinámicas territoriales, urbanísticas, socioeconómicas han hecho de la Ciudad y la región un territorio integrado que debe coordinarse para garantizar su sostenibilidad. Es por ello que la administración de la Bogotá Humana ha apostado por incluir en su Plan de Desarrollo proyectos y metas que apuntan a la disminución de las disparidades entre los territorios de la región en términos de calidad de vida.



UN-Habitat, 2015  
85 pp., 210 x 297 mm  
Available in: Spanish



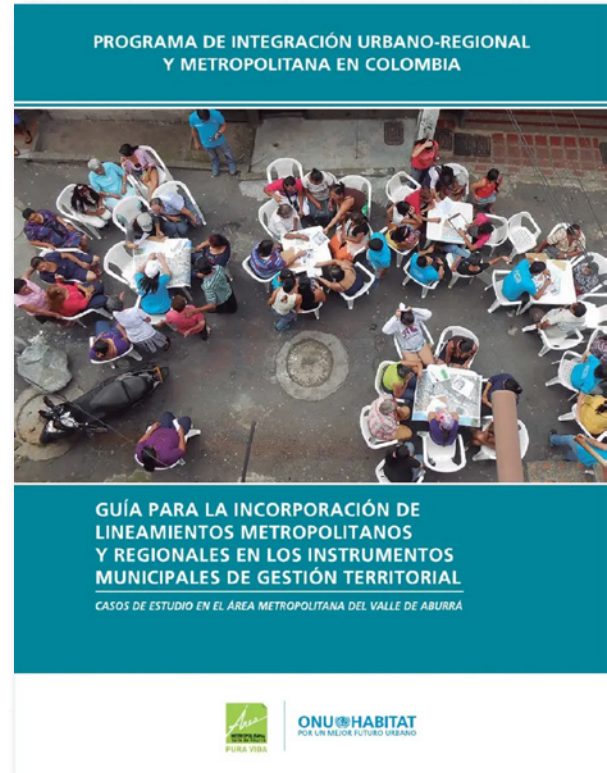
## Guía Lineamientos Metropolitanos

Las dinámicas de integración regional y metropolitana son una realidad que ha permeado a Colombia desde los años 50, en su mayoría como resultado de procesos de conurbación que tienen origen en las migraciones que por diferentes motivos se han dado desde las áreas rurales a las medianas y grandes ciudades del país. No obstante este camino de varias décadas recorridas, son pocos los arreglos supramunicipales que han dado fruto y se han consolidado de manera exitosa.

Actualmente Colombia cuenta con 6 áreas metropolitanas conformadas jurídicamente y administrativamente, que reúnen en su conjunto aproximadamente el 20% de la población nacional, y con una cantidad parecida de esquemas asociativos que se han fortalecido desde la entrada en vigencia de la Ley Orgánica de Ordenamiento Territorial (LOOT) sancionada en 2011.



GIZ & UN-Habitat, 2015  
 112 pp., 176 x 250 mm  
**HS Number :** HS/036/15S  
**ISBN:** 978-92-1-132658-1  
 Available in: Spanish



SPA

## Sistematización de Experiencias Exitosas en Materia de Integración Metropolitana en Colombia: El caso del Valle de Aburrá

Tendencias de largo plazo sobre conurbación y desarrollo urbano muestran que en vez de dispersarse aleatoriamente sobre el territorio, la población y la actividad económica en el mundo están cambiando y concentrándose en grandes centros. Estos centros se encuentran muchas veces constituidos, además de las ciudades, por los municipios cercanos a las mismas, conformando de esta manera lo que conocemos actualmente como las áreas metropolitanas.



SPA



UN-Habitat, 2015

**HS Number:** HS/009/15S

448 pp, 176 x 250 mm

Available in: English

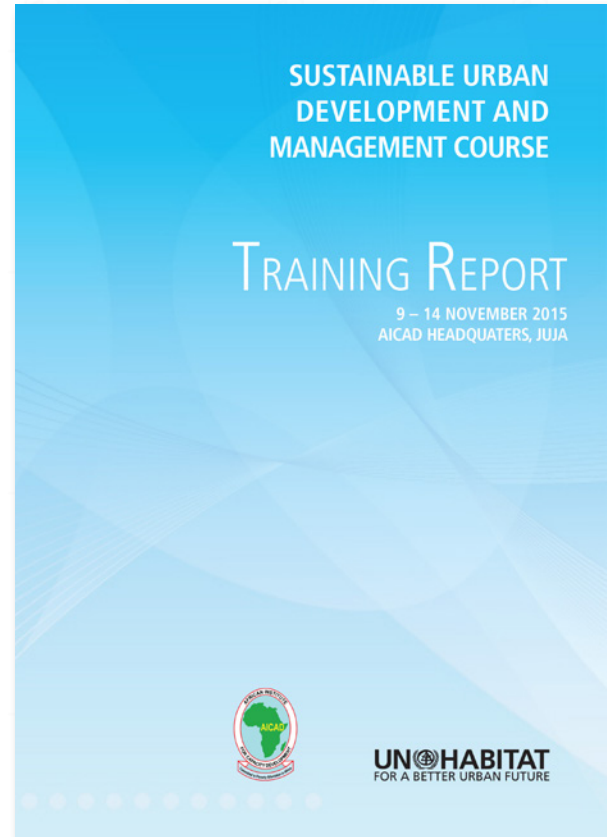
## Sustainable Urban Development and Management Course: Training Report

To enhance the current capacity of the counties and the urban sector to effectively and efficiently deliver sustainable development, UN-Habitat and Africa Institute for Capacity Development (AICAD) organized the Sustainable Urban Development and Management Course targeting mid-career Urban and County Planners from throughout the Republic of Kenya.

The comprehensive training program covered both conceptual and practical issues related to the management of urbanization and development in counties in Kenya. An organizing committee comprising AICAD and UN Habitat provided overall guidance for the implementation of the Sustainable Urban Development and Management Training Course. The course was implemented on a cost-sharing basis.



UN-Habitat, 2015  
36 pp., 210 x 297 mm  
Available in: English



ENG

## The Role of Transport and Transit Corridors in Foresting International Cooperation for Sustainable Development. Issues and Recommendations

This paper aims at defining transit and transport corridors, outline factors influencing development of the corridors, highlight the role done by UN-Habitat in promoting the development of transport and transit corridors, and ultimately explore the role played by transit and transport corridors in promoting international cooperation for sustainable development. This review will be based on cases undertaken at national and regional scales from different areas around the world.

Normatively in development practice, transport and transit corridors are meant to boost economic growth at the local, regional and international scale, promote connectivity between cities, peoples and resources, facilitate intra and inter regional trade and provide access to landlocked countries to international gateways such as ports.



UN-Habitat, 2015

**HS Number:** HS/071/16E

36 pp., 210 x 297 mm

Available in: English



## The Role of Transport and Transit Corridors in Fostering International Cooperation for Sustainable Development: Issues and Recommendations

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## Urban Patterns for a Green Economy: Optimizing Infrastructure

Part of a series of four entitled Urban Patterns for a Green Economy, this guide proposes that cities can act as agents for change that allow their large populations to live less wastefully.

It considers how infrastructure systems can be viewed as an opportunity to shift cities onto a more sustainable path by paying close attention to the resources that pass through them, and the manner in which they support the activities of the city. Each city context differs, based on stage of development, pace of growth and available resources.



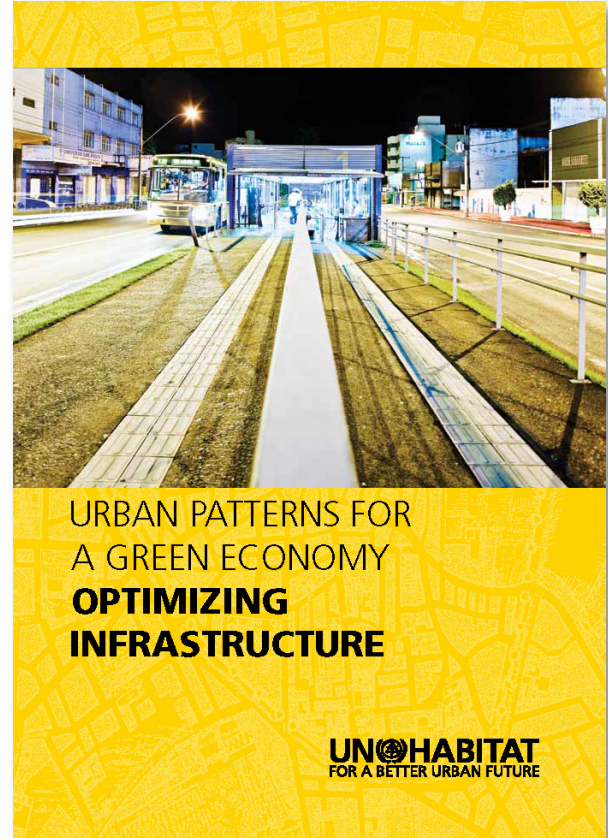
UN-Habitat, 2012

**ISBN Series Number:** 978-92-1-133398-5

**ISBN Number:** 978-92-1-132461-7

93 pp, 176 x 250 mm

Available in: English



ENG

## Urban Patterns for a Green Economy: Leveraging Density

Part of a series of four entitled Urban Patterns for a Green Economy, this guide explores the compact city and its benefits within the developed and developing world's contexts. The guide illustrates how the compact city concept and planned (versus unplanned) urban extension can support sustainable urban patterns that benefit the functioning of developed as well as developing world cities.

Properly managed, compaction can positively enhance the life of the city dweller and support related strategies aimed at promoting a green economy and sustainable urban settlements.



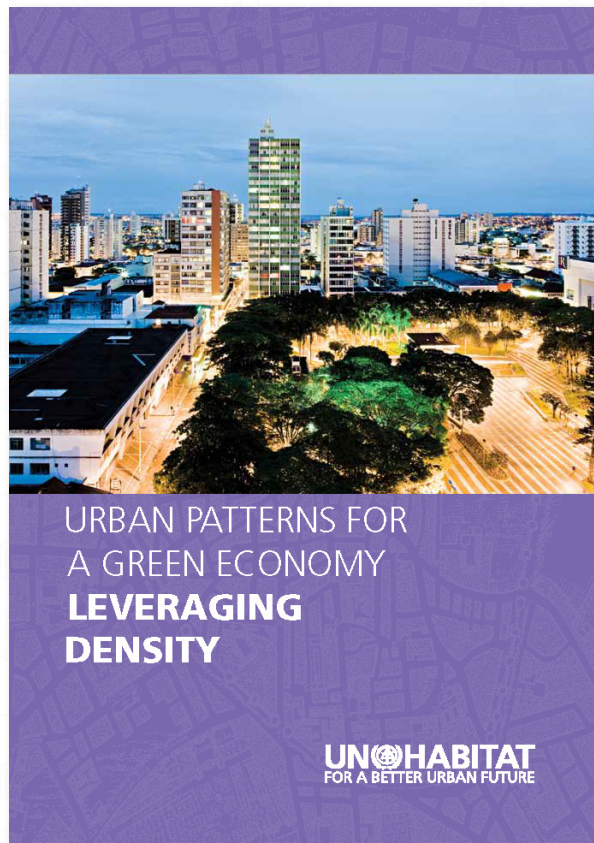
UN-Habitat, 2012

**ISBN Series Number:** 978-92-1-133398-5

**ISBN Number:** 978-92-1-132463-1

111 pp., 176 x 250 mm

Available in: English



## Urban Patterns for a Green Economy: Clustering for Competitiveness

Part of a series of four entitled Urban Patterns for a Green Economy, this guide argues that strategic investment in physical infrastructure with the diversification of economies allows cities to play a specialized role in polycentric urban development.

Furthermore, it suggests that green economic development can be achieved through the development of green clusters and green jobs. Finally, this guide argues that a number of green economy outcomes may be reached through efficiencies and shared infrastructure, rather than duplication.



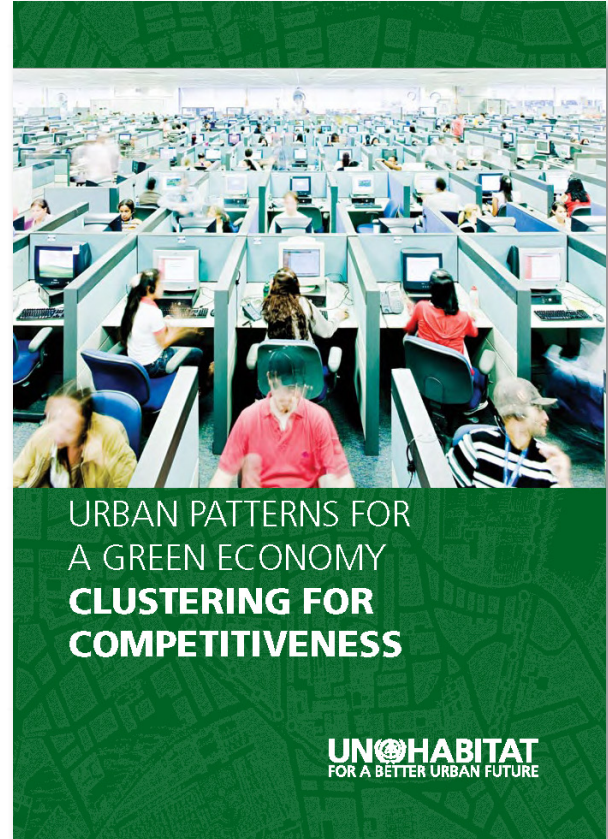
UN-Habitat, 2012

**ISBN Series Number:** 978-92-1-133398-5

**ISBN Number:** 978-92-1-132460-0

91 pp., 176 x 250 mm

Available in: English



ENG

## Urban Patterns for a Green Economy: Working With Nature

Part of a series of four entitled Urban Patterns for a Green Economy, this guide (Working with Nature) focuses on the effect of unplanned, rapid growth of cities on the functioning of a city-region's natural systems. It outlines how guided development can maximize the ability of ecosystems to support sustainable human and natural processes.

It offers a perspective on how to work with nature and the ecological processes in regions, and looks at the need to work across scales; to understand regional systems; and develop principles and measures that can be applied at the regional, city and local scales.



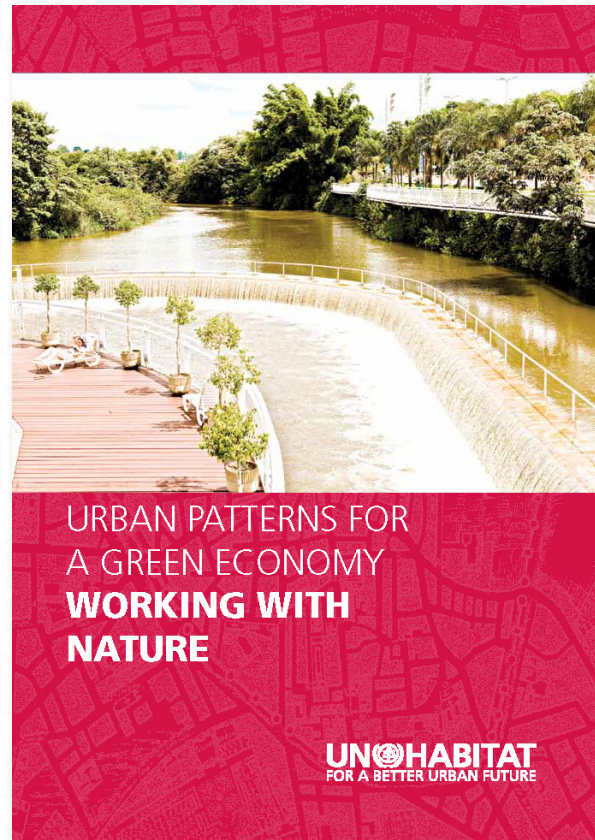
UN-Habitat, 2012

**ISBN Series Number:** 978-92-1-133398-5

**ISBN Number:** 978-92-1-132462-4

88 pp, 176 x 250 mm

Available in: English





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## Contact Us

United Nations Human Settlements Programme (UN-Habitat)

Policy, Legislation and Governance Section

P. O. Box 30030, 00100 Nairobi GPO KENYA

Address P.O. BOX 30030 Nairobi 00100 Kenya

Phone +254 20 7623987 (Central Office)

[www.unhabitat.org](http://www.unhabitat.org)

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