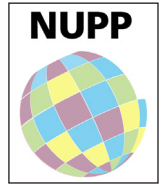


# 3rd International Conference on NATIONAL URBAN POLICY

UN-Habitat Headquarters | Nairobi, Kenya  
28th-31st October, 2019



## THEMATIC SESSION: “INNOVATIONS IN HOUSING POLICIES AND THE ROLE OF NUPS”

**30 October 2019 – 10:00-11:30**

3rd International Conference on National Urban Policy – Nairobi, Kenya

## CONTEXT

Housing is an essential human need to which every household requires access. Housing provides space, services and amenities for living, affects citizen well-being and has profound social impacts on every country. Providing decent and affordable housing is one of the core policy objectives of every country. At the same time, housing is an integral sector of a country's national urban policy (NUP), as it constitutes a key element of urban space and urban development.

In most cities around the world, current housing needs outpace supply of affordable housing, partly due to the global trend of urbanisation. More than half of the world's population currently lives in cities and it is expected that two-thirds of people (6.7 billion) will live in urban areas in 2050. The absolute number of slum dwellers has been rising: in 2014, over 880 million urban residents were estimated to live in slum conditions. In many countries, the elderly, women, youth, migrants and ethnic minorities face particular challenges in order to access housing and property rights. Housing policies can also affect environmental sustainability in cities. For instance, housing policies encouraging urban sprawl can lead to greater use of energy and natural resources and place a strain on funding for public infrastructure. Thus, national housing policy instruments play a key role in promoting urban compactness while ensuring housing affordability. Designing good housing policies necessitates an innovative and integrated approach that better contributes to sustainable urban form while ensuring affordable housing.

Within this context, this thematic session will serve as a platform to share best practices on innovations in national housing policies, which contribute to both sustainable urban form and housing affordability, and to discuss the role of NUPs.

### Key questions that will be addressed during the roundtable include:

- How are countries' housing policies addressing sustainable urban form (e.g. compact urban development) while ensuring affordable housing?
- What are effective national housing policy instruments that can simultaneously address urban housing affordability and compactness?
- What innovative examples are being conducted internationally and what can be learned from these experiences?

## PANEL

**Moderator:** *Tadashi Matsumoto*, Senior Policy Analyst, OECD

**Panelist 1:** *Senait Damtew Tadesse*, Head of Housing Development and Administration Bureau, Addis Ababa

**Panelist 2:** *Oscar Javier Garduno Arredondo*, Mexico, the Secretariat of Agrarian Land, and Urban Development (SEDATU), Government of Mexico

**Panelist 3:** *Lennart Fleck*, UN-Habitat

**Panelist 4:** *Christophe Lalande*, UN-Habitat