



FIRST WORKING NOTE - HABITAT III ZERO DRAFT OUTLINE January 2016

THE NEW URBAN AGENDA – THE HABITAT III OUTCOME DOCUMENT

Principles: concise, focused, forward-looking and action-oriented outcome document.

Length: around 30 pages.

Proposed outline:

1. **QUITO DECLARATION:** Brief political preamble and/or declaration with key principles of the New Urban Agenda
 - The Urban context in 2016
 - Legacy Habitat I and Habitat II
 - Sustainable Urban Development in the new development framework: Agenda 2030
 - The Climate Change Action
 - Sharing spaces, sharing resources, sharing the future: The Citizen Pact
 - The Local-National partnership
 - A New Urban Agenda commitment and action plan
2. **SUSTAINABLE CITIES ACTION PLAN:** Implementable and action-oriented document including policy recommendations at the local, national, regional and global levels

NO ONE BEHIND: Social Cohesion and Equity

- Right to the City and Cities for All
- Safer Cities
- Migration and refugees in urban areas
- Vulnerable population
- Urban Culture and Heritage

BUILDING THE URBAN STRUCTURE: Urban Frameworks

- National Urban Policies
- Urban Rules and Legislation
- Urban Governance





SUSTAINABLE URBAN GROWTH: Urban Economy

- Municipal Finance and Local Fiscal System
- Local Economic Development
- Jobs and Livelihoods
- Informal Sector

PLANNING THE URBAN SPATIAL DEVELOPMENT: Urban Planning and Design (Strategic planning)

- City Extensions
- Urban Land
- Intermediate Cities
- Public Spaces
- Urban-Rural Continuum

PROVIDING URBAN SERVICES: Urban Housing and Basic Services

- Urban Infrastructure
- Energy
- Transport and Mobility
- Housing
- Smart Cities
- Informal Settlements

MANAGING AND ADAPTING RISKS: Urban Resilience

- Urban Ecology and Environment
- Urban Ecosystems and Resource Management
- Cities and Climate Change and Disaster Risk Management
- Urban Crisis

3. MEANS OF IMPLEMENTATION

4. MONITORING AND REVIEW

5. FOLLOW-UP AND INSTITUTIONAL FRAMEWORK

6. ANNEXES:

- Urban Glossary
- Indicators of the New Urban Agenda





SUMMARY OF THE POLICY PAPER FRAMEWORKS

PU1: The Right to the City and Cities for All

- Recognizing the current patterns of urban development based on competitive cities, the New Urban Agenda needs to emphasize necessary links between social inclusion, participatory democracy, and human rights with the territory to make inclusive, fair, democratic and sustainable cities.
- It is important to understand the City as a culturally rich and diversified collective space that pertains to all of its inhabitants. As its physical character, the city is every metropolis, village, or town that is institutionally organized as territory unit with district, municipal or metropolitan character. It includes the urban space as well as the rural or semi-rural surroundings that form part of its territory.
- All the persons who inhabit a city, whether permanently or transitionally must be considered its citizens. The citizenship is extended for the vulnerable groups considered at all levels.
- The range of human rights and the variety of forms should be recognized in a more holistic way in the New Urban Agenda mentioning and embracing the concept of the Right to the City, as a collective right for all inhabitants.
- The territories of the cities and their hinterlands are considered as spaces for the exercise and fulfilment of rights, in order to ensure that people have access to the resources, services, goods and opportunities that the city brings in a fair, universal, democratic and sustainable way.
- The Right to the City is a new paradigm that provides an alternative framework to re-think cities and urbanization on the basis of the principles of social justice, equity, effective fulfilment of all human rights, responsibility towards nature and future generations, and local democracy.

PU2: Socio-Cultural Urban Framework

- Social-cultural urban framework plays a role in increasing citizen participation in all levels of planning and implementation leading to more inclusive cities and better urban environments.
- It also promotes social justice, inclusion of disadvantaged groups, special mention of urban poor and unskilled migrants.
- Making large enterprises more responsible and committed with their communities and decreasing economic disparity between groups and regions. In general stimulate social innovation in planning and management of towns and cities.
- It is important to allow cultural differences and promote localized systems of sustainable urban development: in terms of city form, social interactions, land use such as spatial segregation and gentrification issues and land value, increased attention for the “commons”, preservation of cultural heritage, among other elements.





PU3: National Urban Policies

- Given that urban challenges and opportunities which can be managed by a government, a National Urban Policy harnesses the dynamics of urbanization and integrates it into the overall process of a country's development.
- National Urban Policies are able to establish the connection between the dynamics of urbanization and the overall process of national development, and can help to harness the benefits of urbanization while mitigating the challenges through the development of a much broader, crosscutting vision of an urban landscape.
- National Urban Policies are intended to achieve better urban results by helping to align sectorial policies that affect urban areas, and by developing an enabling institutional environment.
- National Urban Policies complement to create an overall, cross-cutting vision of an urban landscape, rather than replace local urban policies, by embracing urbanization across physical space, by bridging urban, peri-urban and rural areas, and by assisting governments to address challenges such as integration and climate change through national and local development policy frameworks.

PU4: Urban Governance, Capacity and Institutional Development

- Local government is the best sphere of government to ensure cross-sectoral integration, rather than sectoral approaches, by encouraging a holistic approach to agenda making and the seeking of solutions.
- Building on the flexibility and proximity inherent to local governments will be key. Approaching local and regional governments should be avoided as a smaller version of national governments.
- The New Urban Agenda is not just about big cities or megacities. It is about a territorial and population flow approach to building livelihoods and citizenship. Urban governance is the primary environment for addressing this complex challenge of place-making.
- The commitment and ownership of local actors to the 2030 Agenda and the climate agreement are clear examples of the opportunities created for the Habitat III agenda to unlock the transformative potential of urbanisation.
- Need a political agenda for action that could imply renewal of monitoring and governance mechanisms internationally, encouraging renewed partnerships among governments and civil society at all levels and the strengthening of existing platforms for knowledge-sharing and exchange.





PU5: Municipal Finance and Local Fiscal Systems

- Fiscally healthy municipal governments enable communities to invest in social and economic infrastructure that promotes higher quality of life, sustains economic growth, and helps localities to prepare for and mitigate the effects of natural and financial crises. Municipal finance is the operational fulcrum on which the success of ongoing, rapid urbanization rests.
- Municipal governments oversee the provision of public goods and services to a growing majority of the world's inhabitants, improving the capacity of municipal governments to fund those services, and the transparency and accountability of the funding process, impacts the quality of life and level of citizen engagement in the political process.
- Cities around the world face rapid growth and increasingly complex responsibilities, for example, responding to climate change and promoting economic growth. This is complicated by chronically insufficient funding to meet local needs in many parts of the world.
- The cities facing the most pressing problems also face resource and capacity constraints. These include, for example, cities in developing countries that require significant infrastructure investment to provide basic services to growing populations and expanding urban areas.
- The design of municipal finance systems can have a significant impact on equity, both within and between a nation's cities. How revenues are raised and how expenditure responsibilities are defined and implemented can exacerbate or alleviate social, political, gender and economic inequality, or access to human rights.
- Some of the most reliable and effective revenue sources and financing tools used by municipal governments are land-based. Proper use of the property tax and land value capture, among other land-based tools, can help to create sustainable and fiscally healthy communities.

PU6: Urban Spatial Strategies: Land Market and Segregation

- As one of the challenging scenarios, human settlements scenario is discussed; continuation of migration to cities, both national and international, of impoverished rural residents. Strained urban absorbing capacity likely to collapse. Rural regions losing their capacity to sustain rurally based economy and settlement systems. Difficulties in reversing the causes of economic decline occurring in many cities.
- As actionable recommendations, it is important to adopt the International Guidelines for Urban and Territorial Planning;
- To provide the governance, legislative and financial framework to support regional and local development plans that offer orderly, sustainable and affordable settlement patterns and their implementation; and,





- To support the creation of an Intergovernmental Panel on Sustainable Urbanization for evaluation of policies to be adapted by Habitat III, identification of new and emerging challenges to sustainable urban development and the dissemination of new applied and basic research on sustainable urban development.

PU7: Urban Economic Development Strategies

- Cities are productive, drivers of growth; connectivity, knowledge and creativity, and new technologies will increase their potential further –smart cities. National economic development has been and will be driven by cities.
- Migration to the city is seen by many as a pathway out of poverty; as an opportunity for individuals and their families.
- The goals of urban economic development are complementary. Economic growth of the city is a necessary but insufficient achievement. Economic development is a broader goal that includes resilience, inclusion, economic security, environmental sustainability as well as simple increases in employment and productivity. Cities are well placed to meet both objectives.
- Despite issues of urban food security and climate change mitigation, economic activities in cities are less exposed to weather and climatic risk, and urban residents have a wider range of economic and social options. Urban-based livelihood is a crucial means of climate adaptation.
- Given that the world is already predominantly urban, urban economies must create the wealth and employment to support investments in critical infrastructure and enhanced public services.
- Policy priorities are to generate more jobs and work opportunities in a city; to enhance existing jobs and livelihoods; and to ensure that all citizens (including low-income, low-skill, informal workers and in-migrants) have access to income earning opportunities.

PU8: Urban Ecology and Resilience

- Urban ecology is the system, based understanding of biotic and physical elements that occur in urban areas. It recognizes the interaction between natural systems and social and cultural systems, and many others. Urban ecology places particular importance on natural ecosystems and the primacy of natural systems in contributing to livelihoods, wellbeing and resilience.
- Resilience is both a complex and dynamic system-based concept, used in different ways in a variety of disciplines, and a simple concept, referring to the ability of a system to return to a previous state following a shock.





- More usually in relation to urban systems, resilience refers to the potential for individuals, communities, and ecosystems to recover from a range of shocks and stresses. At the urban scale, various frameworks have been proposed, but what most of them have in common is an acceptance that resilience requires both ‘hard’ protective infrastructure and ‘soft’ systems such as knowledge and institutions.
- The concept of resilience when applied effectively can provide a useful base for more substantial changes in the underlying social, political and economic drivers of risk and vulnerability.
- Resilience and urban ecology have overlapping characteristics. They both are founded on systems (ie the interrelationships) of the city, its people and its landscape, and both are fundamental to well-being and transformative change at an urban scale. This policy unit thus sees urban ecology and resilience operating in tandem in cities, and will not analyse as two distinct ‘issues’.
- Key recommendations for action are categorized as creating an enabling frameworks; planning and designing interventions including multi-stakeholders and policy instruments; and implementing activities including creating long-lasting, cross-sectoral and public-private working groups to oversee implementation.

PU9: Urban Services and Technology

- The emphasis on urban services and technology is placed on strengthening policies and institutional frameworks for expanding equitable access for all “urban users”. Urban user means the population of urban areas and people who frequent urban areas for all kinds of purposes (work, health, trade, education, leisure, visits, tourism etc.).
- Urban services are regarded as the key ingredients for the physical and mental well-being of the urban population and the users of urban areas. They are also the key ingredients for the economic development of urban areas as the “power houses” of nationwide economic development.
- Urban services comprise of all service related areas as technical and educational services as well as social welfare, energy and clean water supply, sanitation and the various transport modes. They need to be regarded from a quantitative and qualitative point of view. The principles of subsidiarity and concomitant financing need to be taken into account.
- Everyone should have access to basic affordable services. In this regard different national or regional starting points should be considered as well as differentiations between countries and sectors are needed.
- The provision of services can be for free, partly subsidized or on cost recovery basis. Living standards and the quality of life which shall be achieved through proper urban services need to be considered in their spatial, social and economic context. Promises of growth and limits of growth need to be taken into account.





PU10: Housing Policies

- **Accessibility to Services:** The concept of “adequate housing” includes access to adequate space and services, which includes water, health care, transport, fuel, climate and disaster-resilient infrastructure, sanitation, lighting and electricity, sewerage and waste disposal, childcare and communications. This category pertains to government policies and community-driven approaches to upgrade neighborhoods, with an emphasis on reducing the overall percentage of a population living in informal settlements (“slums”).
- **Habitability:** This concept refers to policies and measures that ensure that adequate housing provides protection from natural elements, structural hazards, and disease. Habitability encompasses the presence and enforcement of appropriate and protective building codes, zoning, and other regulatory frameworks that ensure safety and adequate space, and can be applied to self-building as well. A government’s overall budgetary allocation for social housing and building code inspections is integral to habitability.
- **Housing Affordability:** Housing costs should not threaten the attainment of other basic needs. This dimension relates to government policies and measures to ensure affordability of housing, including subsidies, tax incentives and market regulation. Affordability includes partnerships – between government, communities, and developers – that are needed to produce affordable and moderate-income housing. It also incorporates mechanisms to monitor the proportion of one’s income or expenditure that is devoted to housing costs. It also addresses the theme of homelessness.
- **Security of Tenure:** The legal right to secure tenure—whether through freehold, leasehold, renting, or other form of individual and collective rights to housing—involves protection from forced eviction, harassment and other threats. In effect, it also guarantees access to use of, and control over, land, property and housing resources. This domain includes measures to ensure compliance with a continuum of land rights, as well as policies to prohibit housing discrimination and to promote gender-equal land rights.





CONCEPTUAL MAPPING OF THE HABITAT III THEMATIC AND REGIONAL MEETINGS

Adequate housing
Affordability
Building management
Children
Citizens
City Planning
Civic engagement
Climate Change
Compactness
Consumption patterns
Cooperation
Cost-effective
Creativity
Cultural mix
Decentralization
Diversity
Ecosystems
Efficiency
Elder persons
Energy
Financial Planning
Gentrification
Governance
Health
Heritage
Human Rights
Inclusive growth
Integration
Job creation
Job opportunities
Land tenure
Land use
Landscapes
Leadership
Metropolitan Areas
Mixed-use
Municipal Finance
Participatory planning

Partnerships
Peri-urban
Persons with disabilities
Planned City Extension
Poverty
Public Services
Public Spaces
Quality of life
Renewable energy
Resilience
Resources
Right to the city
Rural-urban
Safety
Slum upgrading
Smart Cities
Social cohesion
Social Housing
Social Inclusion
Social innovation
Solidarity
Speculation
Sprawl
Street Patterns
Mobility
Sustainable solutions
Tax revenue
Technology
Transportation systems
Urban Democracy
Urban World
Urban Growth
Urban Planning
Urban revitalization
Waste management
Water
Women

