



**INTERNATIONAL
GUIDELINES
on URBAN
TERRITORIAL
PLANNING
REPORT
2018-2020**

**Implementing
the International Guidelines
on Urban Territorial Planning
2018-2020**

Implementing the IG-UTP 2018-2020

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Dotted line represents approximately the Line of Control in Jammu and Kashmir agreed upon by India and Pakistan. The final status of Jammu and Kashmir has not yet been agreed upon by the parties.

Final boundary between the Republic of Sudan and the Republic of South Sudan has not yet been determined.

A dispute exists between the Governments of Argentina and the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland concerning sovereignty over the Falkland Islands (Malvinas).

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FOREWORD

The International Guidelines on Urban and Territorial Planning, approved by the UN-Habitat Governing Council in Resolution 25/6 of 23 April 2015, were developed to provide a global reference framework for planning that enables actions across different levels and sectors, with the participation of a variety of stakeholders who have a role in shaping both the built and natural environment.

In addition to supporting member States and partners to adopt and use the Guidelines, the Governing Council resolution 26/8 of 2017 encouraged UN-Habitat, “to help member states, at their request and within mandated activities, to develop and review their national urban policies, including the content and process of urban and territorial planning, considering the principles of the International Guidelines on Urban and Territorial Planning, as well as developing new innovative tools in collaboration with local authorities and other relevant actors.”

The global survey on Urban and Territorial Planning helps to track the implementation of the Guidelines by Member States and partner organizations. We wish to acknowledge the support of country focal points and the participating professionals throughout the monitoring process. We are also grateful for the case studies that were shared by our partners which illustrate their efforts to localise the Guidelines.

As we approach the fifth year of implementing the International Guidelines on Urban and Territorial Planning, we look back at the milestones that we have achieved. The need for urban and territorial planning cannot be over-emphasized. Urbanisation is progressing rapidly, particularly in developing countries and by the year 2050, it is estimated that seven out of ten people globally will be living in cities. At first glance, it may seem as though urbanisation presents multiple and daunting challenges for ensuring the well-being of citizens and achieving balance with the

surrounding natural environment. However, the last few years have equally demonstrated the key role of urbanization in the economic and social progress of countries. The IG-UTP have provided guidance and inspiration to action in several countries and have informed innovation in diverse fields, including promoting the integration of health in urban and territorial planning and supporting self-assessment of planning systems.

The Report "Implementing the IG-UTP 2018-2020" identifies the key findings and outcomes and reflects upon lessons learned in the second biennium of implementation of the Guidelines. At the advent of the Decade of Action, it also looks forward to the next steps in the collective work of reforming planning systems and equipping member states, local government and stakeholders with tools and guidance for Urban and Territorial Planning that advances the realisation of the Sustainable Development Goals and the implementation of the New Urban Agenda.



Maimunah Mohd Sharif

United Nations Under-Secretary-General and Executive Director, UN-HABITAT

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'Maimunah', with a long horizontal stroke extending to the right.

TABLE OF CONTENTS

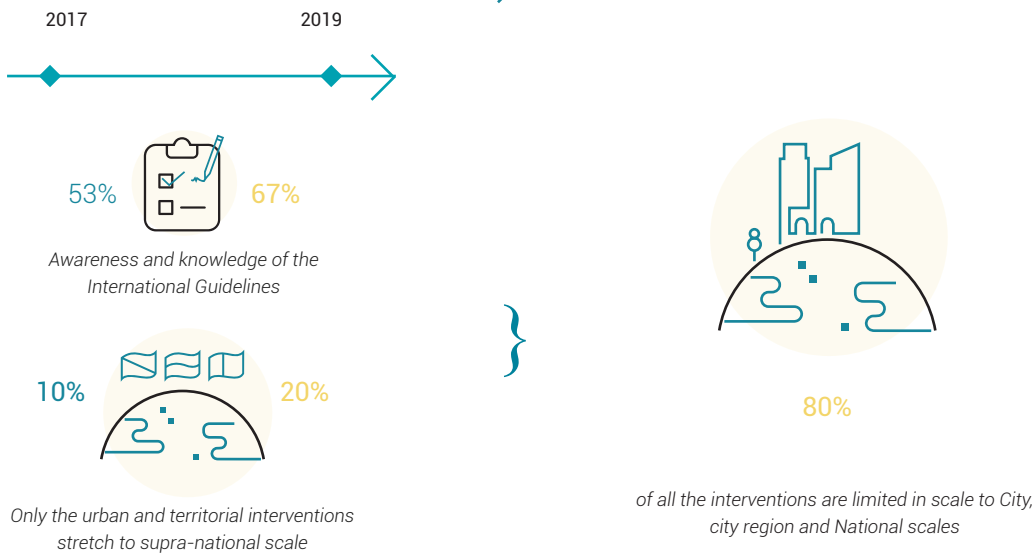
FOREWORD	IV
TABLE OF CONTENTS	VI
LIST OF FIGURES	VIII
SUMMARY	1
Changes between 2017-2019	2
Reaching out to member states and partners	3
I. INTRODUCTION	5
Outline of the report	7
II. BACKGROUND	8
III. METHODOLOGY	10
IV. KEY ACHIEVEMENTS	13
I. The IG-UTP implementation framework	14
ii. The pillars for implementation	16
iii. Publications/reports	17
V. FOCUS ON IG-UTP & HEALTH	18
i. Localizing the IG-UTP through the health lens	19
ii. Focusing on health and wellbeing	22
Case study	28
VI. COUNTRY EXPERIENCES	32
i. General highlights from the IG-UTP survey and inspiring practices	35
ii. Sample countries experiences	38
iii. Partners: professional institutions	48
iv. Partners: academic institutions	56
VII. CHALLENGES FACED	58
VIII. NEXT STEPS 2020-2022	69

IX. ANNEXES	75
Annex 1: IG-UTP Events - 2015-2019	76
Annex 2: IG-UTP Partners – 2015-2019.....	81
Annex 3: Serbia NV to UN-Habitat ED shows commitment to advancing the guidelines in the country	83
Annex 4. Use of the guidelines	84

LIST OF FIGURES

Figure 1	The planning system	20
Figure 2	Correlation between the 12 principles and three selected thematic areas: a) Health and wellbeing, b) Food and nutrition, c) Culture and heritage.	21
Figure 3	Urban and territorial development priority for partners countries.	37
Figure 4	LUPF contribution to LIEUTUVA 2030	43
Figure 5	LUPF analysis methodology	44
Figure 6	Urban and territorial planning linked to different thematic	71

SUMMARY



The **IG-UTP Implementation Report 2018-2020** has been developed as a compilation of experiences and findings by both UN-Habitat and IG-UTP countries and partners in using the guidelines in local contexts. The report covers the **second biennium of implementation (2018-2020)** since the approval of the guidelines in 2015 and builds on the results of the Global Survey on Urban and Territorial Planning formulated by UN-Habitat in September 2019, case studies, regular newsletters, online sources, partner websites advocating for the guidelines, and integration into publications, to track the adoption and use of the guidelines among Member States and partners.

In this reporting cycle, fewer countries responded to our survey, but more partners submitted cases of inspiring practices related to their experiences with the guidelines.

About **67 per cent** of the data gathered in 2019 confirmed that there is continued awareness and knowledge of the International Guidelines on Urban and Territorial Planning compared to 2017, when that figure was **14 per cent less**. This could be attributed to efforts in developing new entry points and tools for the implementation of the guidelines as described later in this report under country experiences. The data also shows there is a deeper level of advocacy than in the previous biennium.

Only 20 per cent of the urban and territorial interventions are on a **supra-national scale**. This was a similar trend in 2017 where only about **10 per cent** of interventions went to supra-national scale. In both reporting cycles, approximately **80% of all the interventions are limited in scale to City, city region and National scales**

In this cycle we focused on health as an entry point to implementing the guidelines, amongst other issues.



CHANGES BETWEEN 2017-2019

A key observation in this reporting cycle compared to the preceding one is the notable growth in interest and diversity of entry points of implementation in the guidelines by both countries and partners. In particular, the last two years have seen **growth in health as a key entry point in localizing the guidelines**. As previously noted, the IG-UTP have become an increasingly relevant framework to guide urban and territorial planning, instrumental to the achievement of the New Urban Agenda (as stated in paragraph 93 of the declaration) and, consequently, influential to the attainment of the Sustainable Development Goals, especially Goal 11.

In addition, the guidelines have been showcased as a foundational framework to guide specific interventions towards the improvement of planning systems. This has been developed along with the development of national urban policies and local spatial strategies. A good example is the **use of the guidelines in formulating a national urban policy in Serbia and Lithuania**. Key to note is that the diversity in the guidelines' array of entry points for implementation, which was initially broad, has now been narrowed down to a few but seemingly effective avenues for localization.

As pointed out in last biennium, in this biennium, and from UN-Habitat's perspective, this process has provided two key lessons to be considered for the formulation of future activities within the IG-UTP programme:

- The diversity of entry points for implementation - meaning the multiple angles, sectors and planning processes through which the IG-UTP can be approached - all derived from the different drivers and needs of the stakeholder groups of the guidelines.
- The different entry points are only made possible by entering into partnerships, as illustrated by the multi-stakeholder spirit of the guidelines. In this context then, the IG-UTP form a universal planning framework with a multi-sector, multi-stakeholder, multi-level approach for the improvement of planning systems.

As with any efforts to localize global development agendas, the guidelines have had high and low points in the appetite for absorption by both Member States and partners with regard to the knowledge and technical capacity needed, and more importantly the financial capacity, to gather international and local expertise to support their implementation.



REACHING OUT TO MEMBER STATES AND PARTNERS

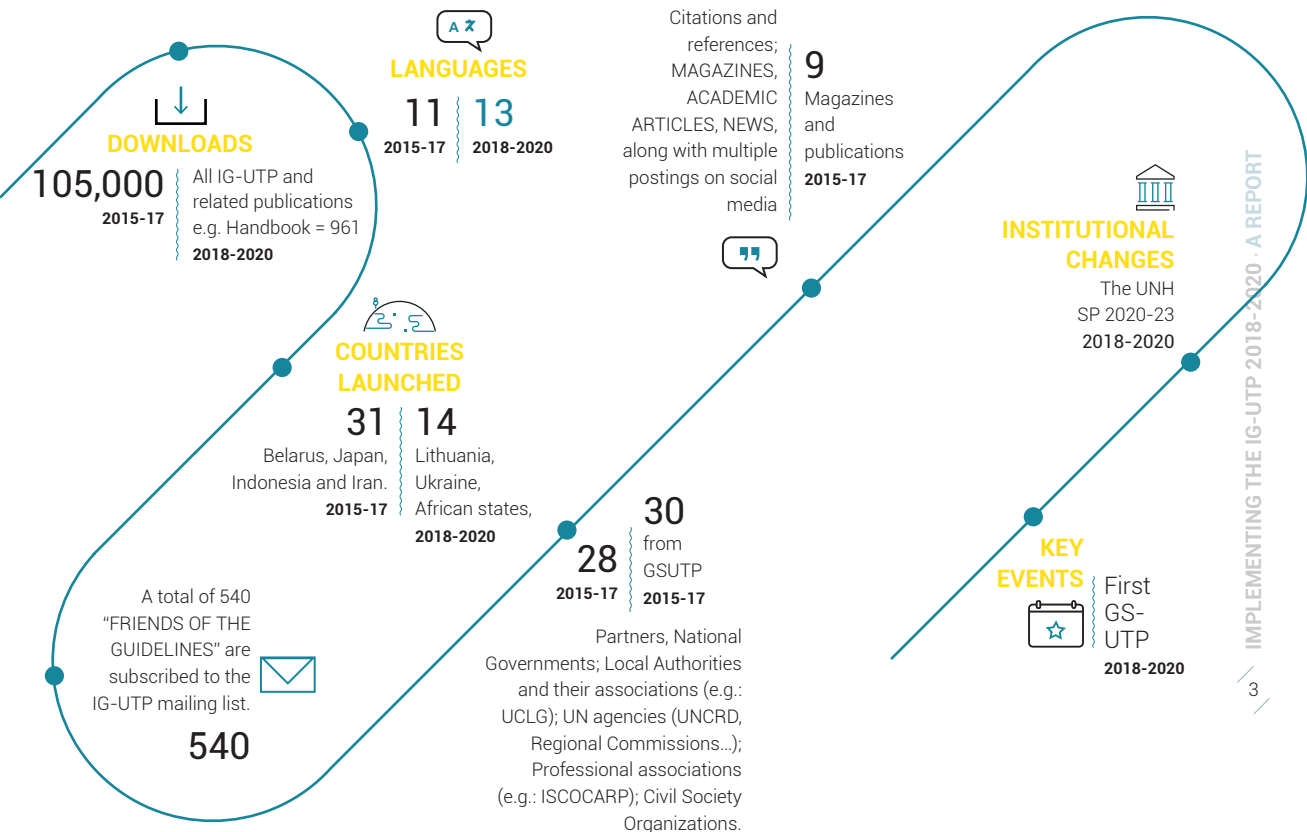
During the first IG-UTP Symposium in Fukuoka, Japan, in 2018, several avenues were identified as key to fully devolving the guidelines. Some of these action points have been followed through by some Member States and partners, while others had a slower pace of uptake.

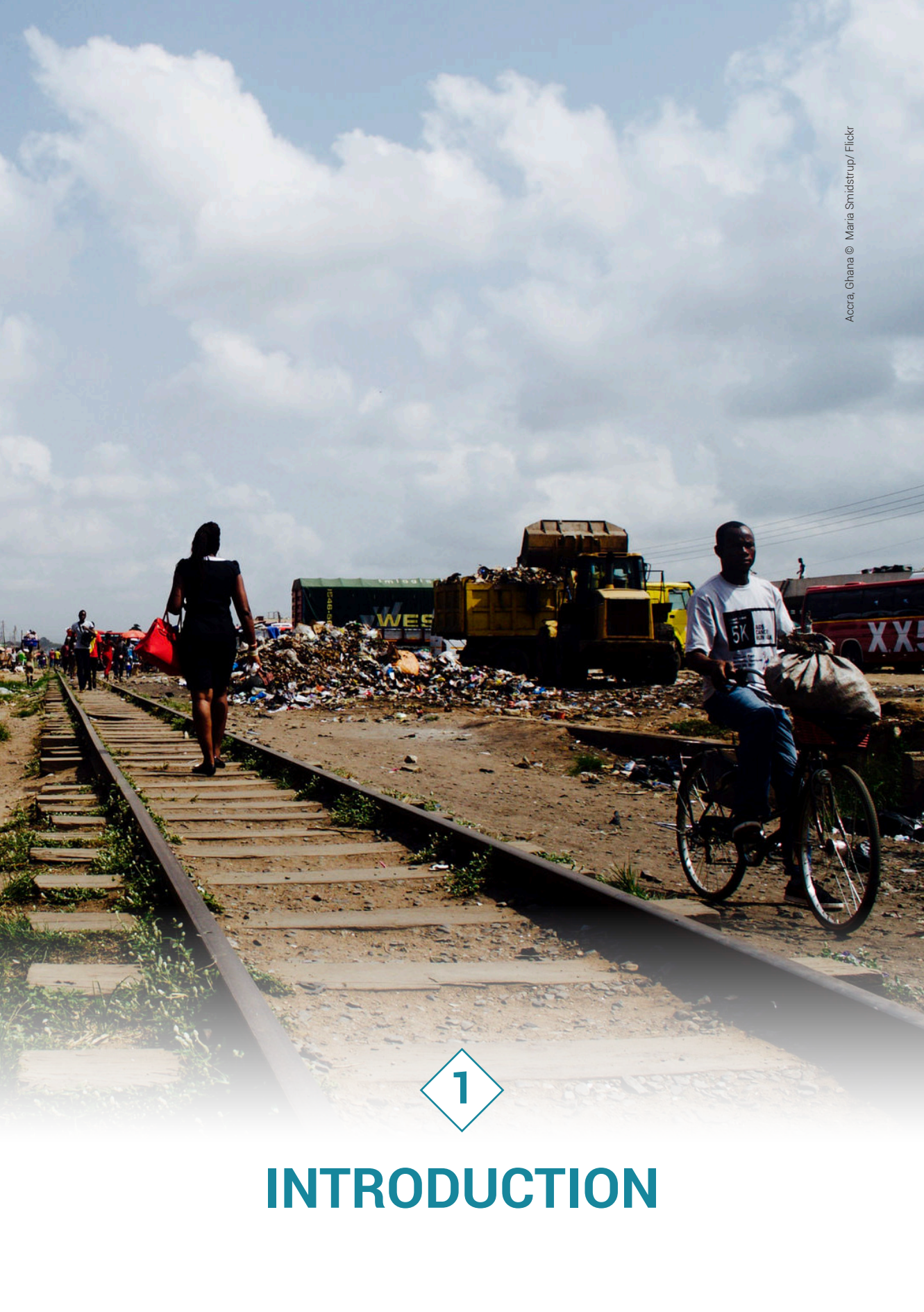
Over the last two years, UN-Habitat has been working to overcome these challenges through the integration of the IG-UTP implementation in the current Strategic Plan 2020-2023, capacity building initiatives through training, advocacy platforms and events where the guidelines were

advocated, and tool development, to assist countries in using the IG-UTP, as described in the report. The African Union for instance under the Sub-Committee on Urban Development and Human Settlements (HUD SC)¹, and with technical assistance from ECA² and UN-Habitat, have resolved to work closely to promote the domestication and implementation of sustainable urban development in Africa guided by the IG-UTP framework. Other countries include:

- 1 Refer to the Chapter V on Country experiences for more detailed information
- 2 United Nations Economic Commission for Africa

Highlights of Progress





1

INTRODUCTION



Urban and territorial planning is the basic building block for creating better urban places. In today's context as well as in the future, urban and territorial planning (UTP) plays a core strategic role in helping decision makers identify development priorities and bottlenecks, formulate, and implement solutions, and target available resources for balanced and sustainable growth pathways. Urban and territorial planning can also provide a forum or opportunities for various other stakeholders, governments at different levels, private investors, civil societies, and community groups, to interact and work together for their sustainable future.

Over the past decade, there has been an increased interest in urban and territorial planning (UTP) given the recent paradigm shift to a more people-centred approach and the momentum generated by major global events focused on urban development (e.g., the World Urban Forum), a movement that culminated with the Habitat III conference held in Quito, Ecuador, in 2016. This renewed interest in the planning profession comes as no surprise, however, as the world's population becomes predominantly urban, and efforts must be enhanced to guide urbanization in a sustainable manner. Thus, new approaches to planning have been brought forth and tested to ensure more holistic-sustainable urban development (SUD) worldwide.

The International Guidelines on Urban and Territorial Planning (IG-UTP or guidelines), approved by UN-Habitat Governing Council (GC) through Resolution 25/6 in 2015, are part of this enabling framework for addressing the challenges presented by modern urbanization through their integrated and territorial approach to urban development. Being a first reference framework for planning at the global level, the guidelines can assist all countries and cities to effectively guide urban demographic changes and improve the quality of life in existing and new urban settlements. For planning constituents, the guidelines represent a collective voice for planning, as they enable different roads and entries to the improvement of planning systems through their multi-level, multi-stakeholder and multi-sector perspective, but all lead to one common goal: sustainable urban development.

Furthermore, the guidelines have become an increasingly relevant instrument for the attainment of universal objectives, acknowledged in the New Urban Agenda as a key means for its effective implementation and, consequently, a contributor to the achievement of Sustainable Development Goal 11 and interlinked targets in the areas of health and well-being, climate action, poverty reduction and economic growth.



OUTLINE OF THE REPORT

Chapter I provides a background and rationale for the formulation and development of this report, setting the context for the activities described in each chapter.

Chapter II outlines the methodology used to analyse the progress achieved in implementing the guidelines and how they serve as a channel for the achievement of universal agendas. This chapter also includes a brief description of the various avenues UN-Habitat has used to ensure clear documentation and tracking of the localization efforts by Member States and partners.

Chapter III highlights the key achievements in the past two years, in line with the IG-UTP implementation framework, illustrated through examples how stakeholders (whether United Nations agencies, international organizations, national or local governments, or professional associations, to name a few) have taken the IG-UTP forward through different means and at different levels.

Chapter IV describes one of the key entry points for implementation on health and IG-UTP. This chapter also reviews this entry point through the 10 entry points from the IG-UTP implementation framework.

Chapter V looks at some of the country experiences in implementing the guidelines with specific case studies on the implementation of IG-UTP through improving practice. In this chapter, we look at the practice in CARICOM through the lens of practitioners, within institutions e.g., in Morocco on territorial development policies through Mohammed VI Polytechnic in Morocco, South Africa's' North-West University, and regional reviews in Saudi Arabia. The chapter also looks at the general trends in some sample countries like Serbia, Finland, Mauritius, Uruguay, Costa Rica, Lithuania, and Ukraine.

Lastly, the concluding sections of the report (Chapter VI, VII, VIII) provides key lessons learned, highlights and challenges of the second period of implementation of the IG-UTP and the way forward into the third biennium 2020-2022 and the future expansion of this programme.



September 2, 2018 © World Council on Global UN Photo
Context: Storms have displaced Communities in Haiti, Connaives, Haiti

2

BACKGROUND



In line with the spirit of the guidelines, continuous monitoring will enable UN-Habitat to not only assess the impact of the guidelines, but also to identify strengths and points for improvement in the IG-UTP programme. While the activities described in this report illustrate UN-Habitat's accomplishments in the diffusion and development

of the IG-UTP, the path towards implementation has also encountered challenges to overcome on the road to the achievement of universal objectives, Sustainable Development Goal 11, and the New Urban Agenda, for more sustainable urban development.



In Resolution 26/8, the Governing Council requested UN-Habitat: “to help Member States, at their request and within mandated activities, to develop and review their national urban policies, including the content and process of urban and territorial planning, considering the principles of the International Guidelines on Urban and Territorial Planning, as well as developing new innovative tools in collaboration with local authorities and other relevant actors”.

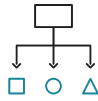
In response, UN-Habitat has developed the second Global Survey on Urban and Territorial Planning as a tool to track the progress made by Member States in the implementation of the guidelines and, at the more general level, to identify planning practices and instruments bringing about change in local planning systems compliant with the principles and recommendations of the IG-UTP. In this context, and as a culmination to the second biennium of implementation, this report provides

the Governing Council with an overview of UN-Habitat's progress during the period 2017 – 2020 in the process of generating knowledge, providing assistance and the establishment of partnerships to support the localization of the guidelines within countries. The information presented builds on UN-Habitat's perspective throughout this process and the accounts of the Member States and IG-UTP partners in adopting and using the guidelines in their specific contexts.



3

METHODOLOGY



UN-Habitat has prepared the following report building on the experiences and activities carried out during the first biennium (2017-2019) of implementation of the IG-UTP since their approval in 2015. As a response to the GC's request in Resolution 26/8, UN-Habitat established the second Global Survey on Urban and Territorial Planning in 2019 to track the implementation of the guidelines in Member States, but also to identify other tools and practices triggering change in local planning systems, particularly those experiences aligned with the principles and recommendations provided in the IG-UTP.

The monitoring survey was conducted both with Member States of UN-Habitat (online country survey) and partners of the guidelines (online partners survey). The channels for the survey were enabled by the Secretariat of the Governing Bodies of UN-Habitat in Nairobi, Kenya, who was responsible for liaising with Member States to deliver and collect the survey responses. A total of **13** Member States in the Secretariat responded to the survey, represented by institutions mostly working at the national level, such as ministries of regional development, urbanization, infrastructure and the environment, and other areas related to UTP. Equally, about **25** partners submitted cases of inspiring practices on implementing the IG-UTPs. The guidelines have been used in training in some institutions and to formulate work programmes for schools and municipalities, and part of the information in this report is derived from research.

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The information presented builds upon UN-Habitat's perspective throughout this process and the accounts of the member States and IG-UTP partners in adopting and using the Guidelines within their specific contexts.



Productive city/causeway bay as seen from the tram © Andreas/ foter.com

4

KEY ACHIEVEMENTS



In this section, we evaluate the key milestones in implementing the guidelines through the 10 entry points as presented in the guidelines implementation framework.

I. THE IG-UTP IMPLEMENTATION FRAMEWORK

While the Guidelines serve as **a compass to guide decision-makers** in the review, development and implementation of their urban policies and frameworks, there is scope for more practical guidance and experience on how to operationalize them at different planning levels.

Considering this, UN-Habitat formulated a global implementation strategy for the IG-UTP to guide both the organization and its partners through a concerted effort to adopt and localize the guidelines to various contexts.

It is envisaged that the Guidelines can



1. Help assess and improve planning system practices,



2. Strengthen institutional capacities and planning education,



3. Inspire adjustments in regulatory frameworks and financing systems that support spatial planning, and



4. Activate **multi-stakeholder, multi-level** and **multi-sector** policy dialogue.

Thus, the implementation strategy accommodates a range of possible actions, moving between the normative and operational activities as listed below, in which stakeholders can take part and contribute to the application of the IG-UTP at different levels.

The normative set of activities is targeted towards the global and local improvement of knowledge, while the operational activities emphasize improving local planning practice;

the establishment of partnerships is a cross-cutting effort between the two as entering in partnership empowers stakeholders to act both at the normative and operational levels.

UN-Habitat plays a leading role in the implementation framework for the guidelines serving as both a catalyst and convener for partners within the global IG-UTP network. In addition, a range of supporting activities and areas for collaboration between UN-Habitat and the Member States have been identified, including:

- Providing technical assistance to Member States for localization;
- Developing supporting tools for UTP and capacity building schemes for planning constituencies;
- Coordinating functions and tracking partner activities in the projected global UTP monitoring framework to follow the adoption and use of the guidelines;
- Monitoring and reporting on the mandate's progress to the GC.



II. THE PILLARS FOR IMPLEMENTATION

NORMATIVE

OPERATIONAL



1.1 Awareness and Advocacy

Newsletters, Web stories,
Journals by partners;
(China: Journal of Urban
and Regional Planning, ISOCARP, etc.)



1.2 Documentation and Lessons

(2 Compendium of inspiring
practices and a Health Edition)



1.3 Tool Development (Publications)



1.4 Monitoring and reporting (Publications)



Establish Partnerships (Cross-cutting)



2.1 Building Capacity and Planning education

IG-UTP training
in Saudi Arabia



2.2 Assessment and review of Planning Systems

Review of Regional plans
in Saudi Arabia, Wuhan



2.3 Improving plans and design

Work carried out in LAC,
Lithuania & Finland



2.4 Policy dialogue and engagement

* GSUTP 2018
* GSUTP 2020



2.5 Legal and regulatory adjustments



III. PUBLICATIONS/ REPORTS

Reports/ Publications	Implementation Framework	Launch Date	More Details	Partners/ Promoters	UN Habitat
IG-UTP Book set	News on the Newsletter	The IG-UTP book was released during 9th Word Urban Forum in Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia in February 2018	Book on Guidelines to fast track their implementation. The book is expected to boost the awareness and implementation of the Guidelines, while serving as a tool to support the implementation of SDG 11 and the New Urban Agenda (NUA).	Professor Cliff Hague. The initiative is funded by the South Africa Association of Local Government (SALGA)	Yes
Leading Change: Delivering the New Urban Agenda through Urban and Territorial Planning	Output 2.3 (2018)	Launched during the 9th session of the World Urban Forum "Leading Change: Delivering the New Urban Agenda through Urban and Territorial Planning".	The book contains the strategic considerations and supporting line of reasoning that need to be considered when applying the IG-UTP		Yes
The IG-UTP Handbook	Output 1.1 (2018)				Yes
Hungarian translation of the IG-UTP	EA 5				Yes
Compendium of Inspiring Practices: Health Edition	Output 1.1 (2018)				Yes



Singapore @ CityBeauty Flickr

5

FOCUS ON IG-UTP & HEALTH



I. LOCALIZING THE IG-UTP THROUGH THE HEALTH LENS

Urban and territorial planning influences how we use and access resources, land-use patterns, urban form and urban spatial design, biodiversity and nature, and transport investments. The IG-UTP target the improvement of policies, plans, designs and implementation processes, including important urban-rural dimensions which, in the end, are responsible for (among others): 1) spatial inequalities across the urban-rural continuum; 2) food security, though the spatial allocation of land for agricultural production; 3) managing the natural resources, including water and biodiversity, and reducing climate change; 4) the air we breathe, the quality of the spaces in which we live, work and play, the water we drink, as well as our access to healthy assets and health care services; 4) the way we live all together - reducing all forms of discrimination and violence, and empowering all individuals and communities while enabling their full and meaningful participation, enhancing shared property; 5) building resilient communities with effective crisis prevention and responses.

The guidelines are a global reference framework to guide the review and reform of the planning system and adjust policies, plans and designs thought a participatory decision-making process aimed at realizing economic, social, cultural, health and resilient environmental goals. This is affected through the development of spatial visions, strategies and plans, and the application of a set of policy principles, tools, institutional and participatory mechanisms and regulatory procedures.

The framework can be seen as a platform that brings together all urban development-related sectors and actors to be part of the urban and territorial planning system and planning process - first considering a thematic entry point for urban and territorial planning to the framework and then providing the platform for a full and coherent integration. The example of this is the work carried out by UN-Habitat and the World health Organization on integrating health into urban and territorial planning; this started by first looking at the IG-UTP through the lens of health – health as a thematic entry point for UTP, which then lead to a broader and comprehensive integration of both sectors.

The IG-UTP promotes a territorial approach to planning, meaning that they work across the five levels of the spatial planning continuum, strongly encouraging different levels of government to collaborate with each other so as to “think out of the box”. This multi-level work is intended to identify solutions at a territorial scale - and a territorial approach is to be included in national as well as sub-national, regional and local policies, strategies and plans. These approaches have been piloted in different contexts together with key partners.

Figure 1. The planning system

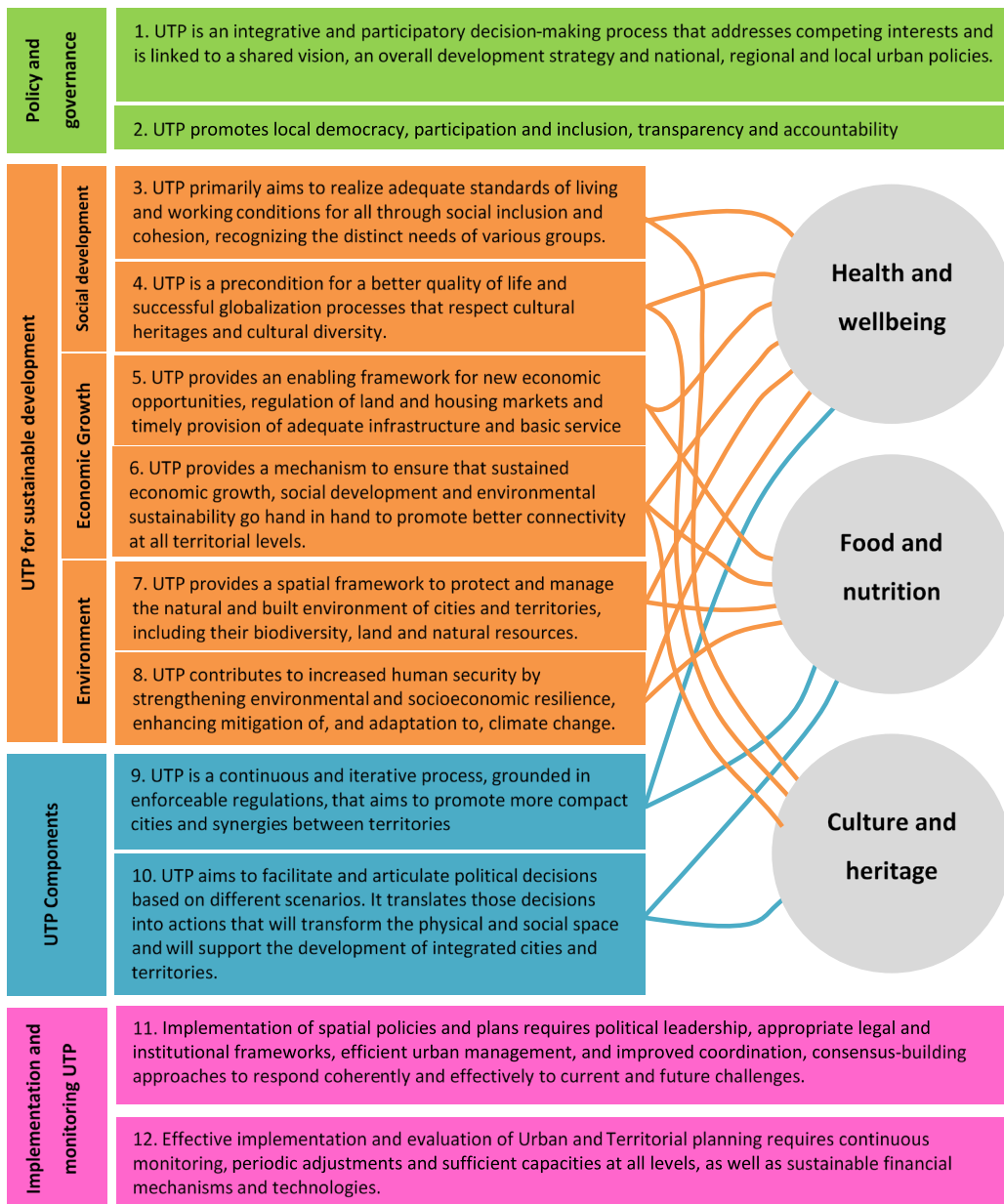


The guidelines are a set of 12 key urban and territorial planning principles and 140 recommendations that can assist decision makers to effectively guide urban demographic changes and improve the quality of life in existing and new urban settlements. The principles are divided in four categories; the first one and last one (green and pink in Figure 3) are policy and governance, and implementation and monitoring, which are connected to any urban and territorial planning thematic practice.

However, the principles listed in sections two and three (orange and blue in Figure 3) - UTP for sustainable development (which includes social, economic and environment development) and UTP components - have a unique and strong relation to different thematic areas.

Figure 3 shows the detailed correlation between the 12 principles and three selected thematic areas: a) health and wellbeing, b) food and nutrition, c) culture and heritage.

Figure 2. Correlation between the 12 principles and three selected thematic areas: a) Health and wellbeing, b) Food and nutrition, c) Culture and heritage.





II. FOCUSING ON HEALTH AND WELLBEING

Using the guidelines for the improved environments and wellbeing has been one of the main areas of work for UN-Habitat with key partners, such as the World Health Organization, the International Society of Urban Health, the Urban Health and Well-being Programme, among others who have been closely working together.

This has resulted in the joint publication by UN-Habitat and the World Health Organization entitled “Integrating Health in Urban and Territorial Planning: A Sourcebook” . The guidelines have served as the framework that enables the integration of the health and planning sectors and fosters collaborative work with mutual benefit.

The publications scan the IG-UTP “sustainable urban and territorial development five qualifiers” through the lens of health and assign a role in each one for these qualifiers, as an input and as an outcome.

The UN-Habitat programme Planning 4 Health has four main areas of work: 1) gathering evidence and building a knowledge base, 2) developing normative and operational materials (e.g., guides, tools, policy briefs), 3) supporting countries and partners on testing, application, and capacity building, and 4) building partnerships for implementation, dissemination, and advocacy (see Table 1).

Table 1. Programme areas of work

AREAS OF WORK		KEY ACHIEVEMENTS
1	GATHERING EVIDENCE / BUILDING A KNOWLEDGE BASE	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> Open call for case studies (+70 submissions) Compendium of Inspiring Practices: Health Edition, published in 2018
	TOOL DEVELOPMENT	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> Sourcebook integrating health in urban and territorial planning to be publish 2020 Health focused planning system assessment Tool: Integrating health into the planning system
<ol style="list-style-type: none"> Training manual: integrating health in urban and territorial planning (under development) The entry point approach workshop (undergoing testing) 		
<ol style="list-style-type: none"> Health focus city-wide public space assessment (under development) 		

3 **TESTING,
APPLICATION AND
TRAININGS**

1. Workshops at international conferences: 15th ICUH - Kampala, Uganda, workshop 16th ICUH – Xiamen China
2. Workshops delivered with key partners on Intersectoral approaches to urban development at Douala, Cameroon and Stellenbosch, South Africa.
3. Overall, around 100 urban leaders from both the health and planning sector have been introduced to the concept and had experienced “how to” apply and make use of the tools developed and under development.

4 **PARTNERSHIP FOR
IMPLEMENTATION**

1. Key Partners: World Health Organization, The International Science Council, Urban health and well-being programme, The Institute of Urban Environment, Xiamen, The International Society of Urban Health
2. Expert and partners group meeting: UN-Habitat Assembly 2019

Each area of work is meant to complement the others; they are not meant to be developed or delivered in a linear process but as a circular process that feeds and builds on each area.

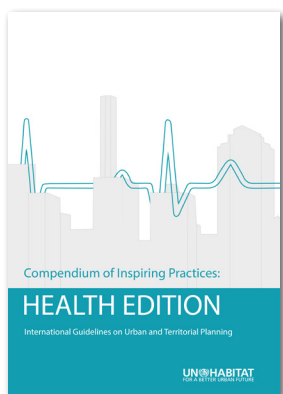
Gathering evidence has been through an ongoing process of collecting case studies across the globe on urban and territorial planning practices. These have health at the centre of their development and/or have positively impacted human health and wellbeing.

The key activity undertaken was an open call for case studies mid-2018, which resulted in more than 70 case studies being submitted and led to the IG-UTP Compendium of Inspiring Practices: Health Edition.

The compendium showcases 20 urban and territorial planning examples that positively and explicitly contribute to human health through the improvement of the built and natural environment.

The compendium covers planning topics such as developing public space, mobility, greening strategies and food security, among others.

Similarly, the cases demonstrate the inherent relationship between planning and public health at different spatial levels: supranational and transboundary, national, metropolitan and city region, city and municipal, and neighbourhood levels.



The compendium can be found at:
<https://unhabitat.org/compendium-of-inspiring-practices-health-edition-international-guidelines-on-urban-and-territorial-planning>

The development of normative tools has been achieved in close collaboration with key urban health partners, and the World Health Organization.

The most recently launched publication is the Sourcebook: *Integrating health in urban and territorial planning*. The publication aims to detail why health needs to be part of UTP and how to make this happen. It brings together two vital elements we need to build habitable cities on a habitable planet: 1) processes to guide the development of human settlements – in this document referred to as “urban and territorial planning (UTP)”; and 2) concern for human health, well-being and health equity at all levels – from local to global, and from human to planetary health.



Through a different consultation process and an expert group meeting in May 2019, analytical tools were developed and tested through different workshops and trainings (see box X for more detail). The **"Health focused planning system assessment: Integrating"** builds from the IG-UTP planning system assessment and incorporates the health sectors and its actors as part of the system.

The sourcebook is meant to complement and support the IG-UTP implementation for improved environments and wellbeing. It identifies a comprehensive selection of existing resources and tools to support the incorporation of health into UTP, including advocacy frameworks, entry points and guidance, as well as tools and illustrative case studies. It does not provide prescriptions for specific scenarios – these should be determined by context, people and available resources. Key messages from the publication can be found throughout the publication.

The sourcebook can be found at:
<https://unhabitat.org/integrating-health-in-urban-and-territorial-planning-a-sourcebook-for-urban-leaders-health-and>

The overall objectives of the tool are to achieve consensus on the benefits of integrating health in urban planning processes; identify gaps and deficiencies, strengths, and opportunities; and initiate a roadmap for improving the planning system to effectively deliver healthier environments with the involvement of the health sector at all spatial scales and government levels.

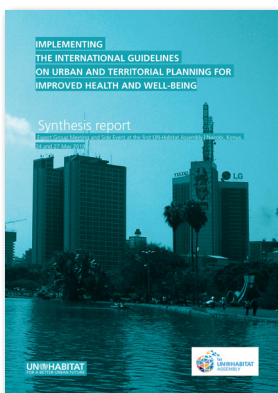
The Health focus city-wide public space assessment (under development)

is a thematic focus assessment that builds on the UN-Habitat *City-Wide Public Space Strategies: A Guidebook for City Leaders* and the different tools available for city-wide public space assessment, such as the UN-Habitat matrix for city-wide assessment and analysis of public spaces using KoBoCollect , an app for collecting and managing data. The assessment provides spatial analysis of the open public spaces and public facilities in the city as well as a detailed, site-specific quality assessment.

Training manual: integrating health in urban and territorial planning: Training modules (under development) is a booklet of recommendations/ instructions to improve and support the process of integrating health into urban and territorial planning. The training manual is currently under development. The entry point approach (under testing) is a scenario-based workshop that aims to identify the entry points needed in a given situation that will lead to effective action towards healthier environments.

Tools have been tested in different scenarios from international conferences, such as the 15th International Conferences in Urban Health (ICUH) Kampala, Uganda, and at the 16th ICUH – Xiamen, China. Audiences at the workshops and trainings have been a mix of different stakeholders for example, urban and health sector representatives, including academics and experts, from local and national government authorities. The events were delivered with close engagement with partners such as The International Science Council, Urban health and well-being programme, The Institute of Urban Environment, Xiamen, the International Society of Urban Health and the World Health Organization.

To know more about the **urban health work** please refer to the follow video link [<https://unhabitat.org/topic/urban-health>]. For more information about the tool's under-development contact us at: unhabitat-ig-utp@un.org for the expert meeting report follow this link:



The report can be found at:
http://urbanpolicyplatform.org/wp-content/uploads/2019/08/Planning-and-Health-Events_Synthesis-report_UNHA_lowRes.pdf

UN-HABITAT AND WHO KEY MESSAGES FROM THE SOURCEBOOK

KEY MESSAGES FOR URBAN PLANNERS:

- Healthy by design. Good urban planning can reduce health risks for communicable and non-communicable diseases and relieve pressure from health systems.
- Urban planning determines human health, well-being and equity, and planetary health. With the right tools, health is not only an outcome, but an asset for good urban planning across sectors.
- Integrating public health in urban planning creates more equitable, socially inclusive and resilient cities.
- Well-connected and integrated system of public spaces, including streets – creates more walkable streets that result in better air quality and inclusive, vibrant and healthier communities.
- How can cities raise the value of public spaces while improving public health? For information, see Nairobi Placemaking Week and find tools and resources to transform urban spaces into working health laboratories.
<http://www.urban-pathways.org/placemaking-week-nairobi.html>
- Air pollution is the greatest environmental risk to health. Solutions exist. An example is the Aburra Valley, Medellin, air quality management plan, and used different air quality tools for good planning in transport, energy, waste, and land-use to improve health and mitigate climate change. More information can be found at chapter 8 of the Compendium of Inspiring practices: Health Edition
<https://unhabitat.org/sites/default/files/2020/04/web-ver-compendium.pdf>
- How can urban planning address food deserts and obesity? Check out England's Planning Healthy Weight Environments and find tools for assessing food security and nutrition, and best practice interventions on diet and physical activity. More information can be found at chapter 19 of the Compendium of Inspiring practices: Health Edition.

KEY MESSAGES FOR A GENERAL AUDIENCE:

- Everyone has a role to play in such an important agenda. We all need to take actions to improve health and health equity. We are all part of a broad family of public health.
- By 2050, two-thirds of the planet's population will be urban dwellers. Let us work to improve health through equitable and fair urban planning.
- Walking to work can improve your health. Good urban planning can improve city and neighbourhood walkability.
- Integrating health in urban planning makes economic sense. With good planning, cities can reduce the burden of disease through non-health budgets and support universal health coverage (UHC).
- Unlock the power of public health to address climate change and achieve the SDGs. Good urban and territorial planning can capture multiple co-benefits of development through a health lens.

KEY MESSAGES FOR DECISION MAKERS:

- Political commitment and leadership across civil society and the built environment and public health professions is needed
- Stakeholder commitment to develop a shared vision for healthier and more equitable placemaking and policy decisions with territorial and spatial implications

KEY MESSAGES FOR HEALTH PROFESSIONALS:

- Health professionals help to deepen the knowledge of how spatial planning can control disease vectors and influence disease transmission, including for emerging infectious diseases,
- Health data, statistics and knowledge of public health issues influence evidence-informed decisions and then track and monitor the success of urban and territorial planning interventions.



CASE STUDY

Developing a participatory approach to building a coalition of trans-disciplinary actors for healthy urban planning in African cities - a case study of Douala, Cameroon.

Douala is the economic capital of Cameroon and is therefore a draw for many people, especially youth from all parts of the country and neighbouring countries in search for better opportunities. This has resulted in significant population growth, with the average annual rate of 5 per cent over the past 30 years, versus 2.8 per cent nationwide. Based on this rate, it is estimated that the population of Douala will triple by 2035. This population increase has not been matched by increased availability of affordable housing, and over 70 per cent of the population live in informal settlements, with both urban poor and middle-class residents living in informal housing due to poor housing and tenure policies coupled with the scarcity of houses. The Douala local Agenda 21 identifies development of urban planning and sustainable housing as a priority. However, the agenda has a poor focus on health outcomes and the health impact assessment of housing policies. Though cities and countries in sub-Saharan Africa generally have poorly documented Agenda 21 status reports, in Douala, the local Agenda 21 was developed in 2010 by the Douala City Council (DCC). Recently updated by the DCC through its department of housing and planning, this local Agenda 21, in its social and economic dimensions, is directed toward combating poverty by achieving a more sustainable population and sustainable settlement in decision-making and promoting health.

The expressed need to address informal settlements by the Douala Municipality, the paucity of data on the health of Douala informal settlement residents, and the weak collaboration between health and housing sectors in the urban planning, make this proposed study timely and of significant policy relevance in Douala.

Therefore, from March 12th to 14th, the "Cercle Municipal" hall of the Douala City Council hosted an initiation research workshop on integrating health issues in urban policies in the town of Douala. The workshop was organized within the framework of the Leading Integrated Research for 2030 Agenda in Africa (LIRA), which offered a two-year grant to a team of researchers from the University of Cape Town (UCT) and the Regional Institute for Demographic Training and Research (IFORD) at the University of Yaoundé 2.

The overall goal of the Douala workshop was to facilitate knowledge sharing between Douala policy makers, researchers and civil society and Cape Town researchers, on the current status of health and housing in Douala; there was also the objective to explore governance structures in Douala, so as to (i) identify synergies and collaboration opportunities, and to (ii) set up a working collaboration with local authorities and stakeholders involved in the management of the city.

The specific objectives of this workshop were to:

- Identify key Douala stakeholders
- Assess key Douala stakeholders
- Analyse and prioritize key Douala stakeholders
- Key Douala stakeholders, to determine the level and process of stakeholder engagement

The workshop used a participative methodology composed by professionals of health and urban planning in Douala, and UN-Habitat representatives (using the IG-UTP framework) and researchers from the University of Cape Town in South Africa. The presentations were followed by group work with participants to bring out the reality of urban and health challenges in their municipalities. Forty-five people attended the workshop and actively participated. The participants included:

- Staffs and senior staffs from the Douala Urban Council;
- A research team from the University of Cape Town;
- A research team from IFORD
- Professionals from the Regional Delegation of the Ministry of health in Douala;
- Professionals from the Divisional Delegation of the Ministry of Urban Development and Housing for the City of Douala;
- Professionals of Urban development and mayor of some municipalities of Douala (Douala 2, Douala 3, Douala 4 and Douala 5);
- Representatives of some civil society organisations working on housing, urban development and health issues in Douala;
- Representatives of some major institutions intervening in the sector of health and housing in the city of Douala;
- Researchers from the University of Douala;
- IG-UTP team members from UN Habitat.

The workshop had a series of participatory activities which led to the identification of strategies to address urban health risk (see Box 1) and to a comprehensive understanding of barriers to inter-sectoral collaboration: the current structure of government organizations into sectors, insufficient willingness to engage inter-sectorally around key urban health challenges, and strict sector mandates and targets.

However, trans-disciplinary research lessons provide a number of strategies to overcome these. Firstly, participatory methods that involve knowledge sharing and the co-designing of research questions and stakeholder engagements can assist in ensuring collaboration is relevant and beneficial to all sectors and actors involved. Secondly, the deconstruction of health or built environment concepts into trans-disciplinary societal challenges that require intersectoral engagement can also assist inter-sectoral collaboration efforts. Thirdly, the mobilizing of non-state actors, such as civil society, for the design and implementation of interventions, thereby demonstrating a top down and bottom-up collaboration, can assist in maintaining intervention sustainability and reduce the burden of action on resource-limited governments. Finally, there is great potential for co-designed workshops such as these, organized in other contexts, to contribute to refining the methodology described further, as well as to initiate participatory processes to explore inter-sectoral collaboration and researcher-policy partnership opportunities. Such activities would serve to build the evidence base required to inform contextually relevant models that aim to improve integrated urban governance in the planning of cities in Africa specifically, and in rapidly growing cities across the global South more broadly.

Box 1. Strategies proposed by participants to address urban health risks identified.

A summary of practical strategies, proposed by local stakeholders through groupwork activity, to address identified urban health risks through urban planning in Douala, Cameroon. Government action to:

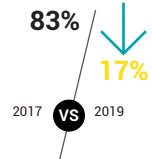
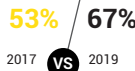
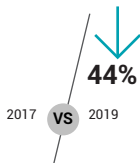
- Improve the drainage of drains and gutters
- Implement pre-collection of waste directly from homes, with the use of polythene bags to mitigate the challenge of urban waste
- Develop a local waste management policy to address household waste, and the recycling of waste material
- Improve management of urban roads
- Enforce planning norms for the construction of new houses, especially in new developments
- Implement strategies to overcome physical safety, such as establishing anti-gang committees for community defence, and improved street lighting
- Reinforce the municipal police and the implementation of fines to address urban disorder
- Encourage individual public action through campaigns to raise public awareness of sanitation and household waste management
- Public competitions for the cleanest neighbourhood or area
- For laws around land use and land occupation
- On urban cleanliness
- Encourage collective public and private action through:
 1. Community committees in charge of urban hygiene, especially around public market areas
 2. Building good quality wells as alternative water sources
 3. Informal sale of sachet water by private businesses



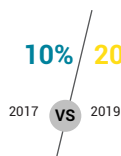
6

COUNTRY EXPERIENCES

GENERAL HIGHLIGHTS FROM THE IG-UTP SURVEY AND INSPIRING PRACTICES



- More than 50% mentioned
- * Compactness
 - * Connectivity
 - * Social inclusion
 - * Integration/coordination and resilience
- As key priorities



interventions stretch to supra-national scale



of all the interventions are limited in scale to City, city region and National scales



84%

of the respondents acknowledged events organized in aid of promoting the guidelines in this reporting cycle.

7



6



less collaboration between governments

2017 VS 2019

Local Authorities have emerged as key stakeholder

International community was highlighted as the top indirect partner in the implementation

8

USE OF THE GUIDELINES



17% VS 50%

2017 VS 2019

31%



Increment in the use of some recommendations



IG-UTP Guidelines adoption

Highly used

24% VS 33%

2017 VS 2019



Do not use guidelines

52% VS 16%

2017 VS 2019





I. GENERAL HIGHLIGHTS FROM THE IG-UTP SURVEY AND INSPIRING PRACTICES

1. Number of participating countries

This reporting cycle saw **44 per cent** fewer countries responding to the request from the survey compared to 2017, though there were more partners submitting cases for inspiring practices in the 2019 reporting period.

2. Level of awareness

About **67 per cent of the respondents** confirmed they had prior knowledge of the International Guidelines on Urban and Territorial Planning by 2019, compared to 2017 with **14 per cent fewer**. This could be due the efforts done in developing new entry points and tools for implementation of the guidelines as described later under country experiences. It also shows a deeper level of advocacy as compared to the last biennium.

3. All participants indicated that urban and territorial development was a priority for their country.

In this biennium, we have seen a downward shift, with **83 per cent** of respondents affirming that integrated urban and territorial planning to foster sustainable development is a current priority for their countries. This is **17 per cent fewer countries** than in the last reporting cycle.

In 2019, **more than 50 per cent** of countries specifically said that compactness, connectivity, social inclusion, integration/coordination and resilience were key priorities, with **100 per cent** highlighting social inclusion as highly important in their contexts.

In 2017, most participants found connectivity, social inclusion and integration to be highly important and, to a lesser extent, compactness and resilience. However, nearly **10 per cent** saw compactness and **5 per cent** social inclusion as not important. Perhaps these two aspects need to be pushed and their importance conveyed.

4. Scale of intervention

As witnessed from the CARICOM when analysing the best practices cases, only **20 per cent** of the urban and territorial interventions stretch to supra-national scale. This was a similar trend in 2017, when only about **10 per cent** of interventions went to supra-national scale. In both reporting cycles, approximately **80 per cent** of all the interventions are limited in scale to city, city region and national scales. Territorial platforms (at regional, national and even trans-national levels) for capacity planning and the development to provide the institutional support mechanisms are greatly advocated as a way to address the growing capacity and human capital deficit to implement sustainable development and the New Urban Agenda. Important to note in the 2019 reporting cycle is the emergence of city scale interventions, whereby all respondents indicated the presence of city scale projects in implementing the guidelines. Better integrated urban areas were highlighted as a key area in both reporting cycles, as compared to compact, connected, inclusive and resilience in urban areas.

5. Events organized, and on demand substantive support

In 2019, almost **84 per cent** of the respondents acknowledged their governments have organized events to promote the guidelines, which is key to fostering sustainable urbanization. Equally, the results show that there is a growing need for on-demand substantive support from UN-Habitat. In view of this, it could be argued that the growing need for the implementation of other global agendas, like the NUA and SDGs, has called for use of universal platforms for implementation, such as those the guidelines provide.

6. The following stakeholder groups are engaging in the promotion or the refinement of urban and territorial planning principles and frameworks.

For the second reporting cycle, local authorities have emerged as a key stakeholder group that has been engaging as a direct partner in implementing the guidelines. The international community was highlighted as the top indirect partner in the implementation. Compared to 2017, the results indicate that there is less collaboration between governments in the implementation than in 2019.

7. Activities in support of the adaptation of the guidelines, and at what level is it taking place?

In 2019, legal and regulatory adjustment at the national level emerged as the top activity in support of the adoption of the guidelines, with policy dialogues, stakeholder engagement and capacity development viewed as second tier in priority.

8. Use of the guidelines

The second reporting cycle saw a **31 per cent increment** in the use of some of the recommendations of the guidelines, as the entry point for implementation also grew substantively. In this, about **8 per cent** of the partners considered the guidelines to be highly used in their contexts. Compared to **52 per cent** in 2017, when participants highlighted that they do not use the guidelines, this figure has **dropped by about 36 per cent to 16 per cent**, implying that there's better adoption of the guidelines in this reporting cycle.

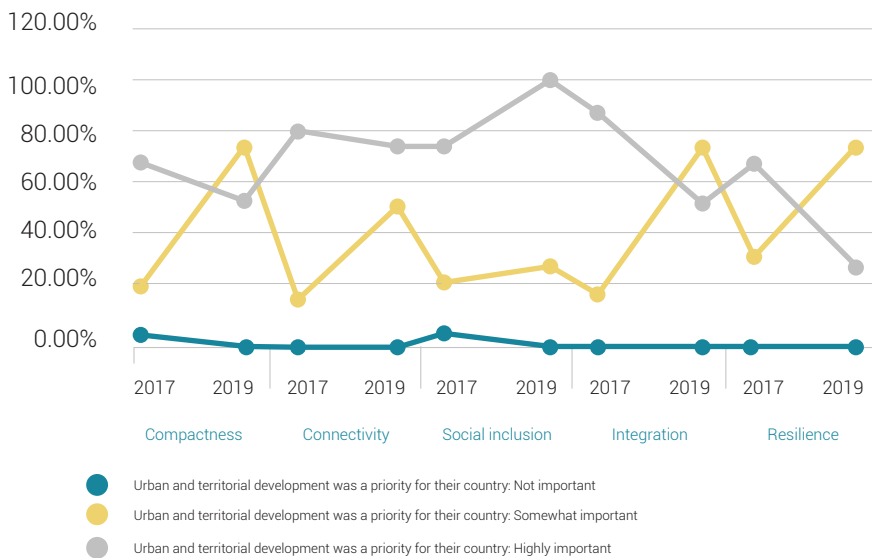
More than half of the current respondents from Member States and partners suggest using some of the recommendations from the IG-UTP to advance sustainable urban development in their countries, both from the survey and the inspiring case studies submitted in October 2019³. For instance, **Finland** pointed out that it is specifically using these paragraphs from the guidelines: para 20 (b) (d) para 21 (a) (b) (c) (f) (h) (i) para 22 (a) para 26 (b) para 27 (a) (c) (d) (e) 28 (g)⁴.

.....
3 The "Compendium of inspiring practices: SDG FOCUS" is available.

4 Refer to the country experience with IG-UTP in the following segment.

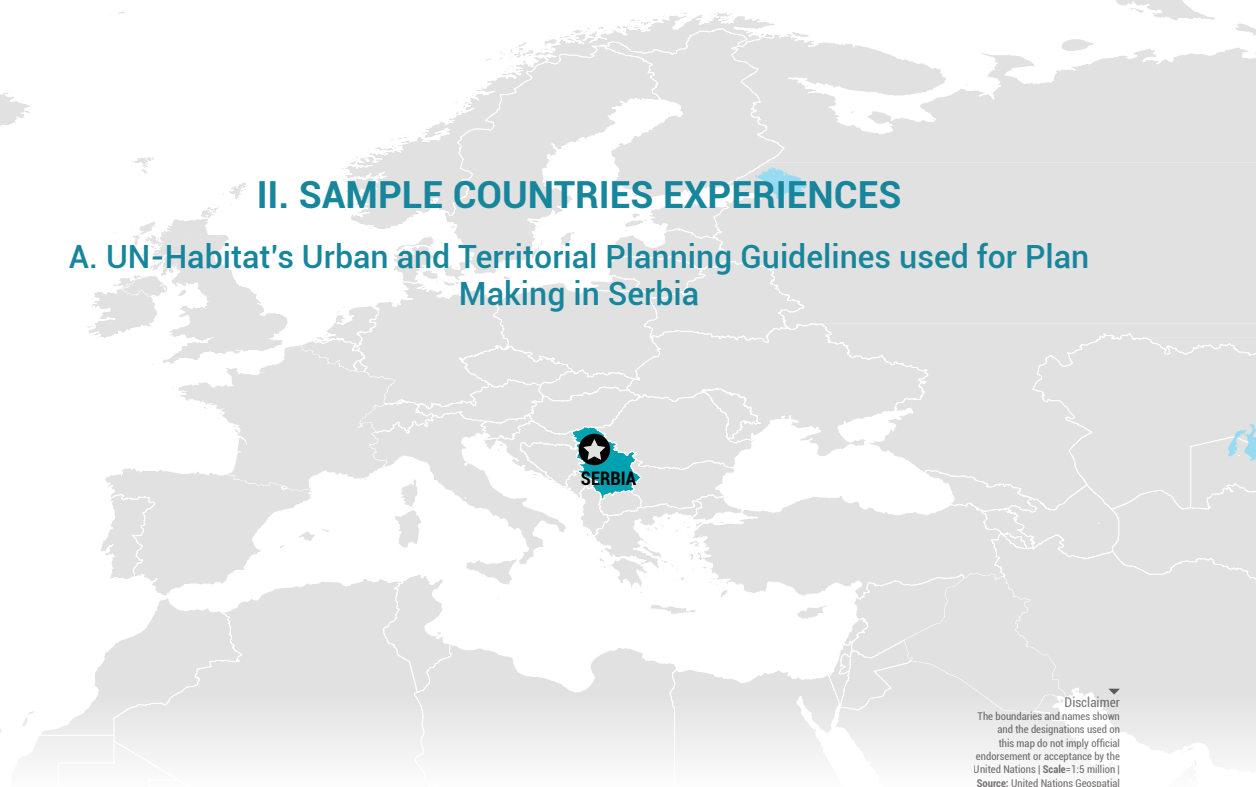


Figure 3. Urban and territorial development priority for partners countries



II. SAMPLE COUNTRIES EXPERIENCES

A. UN-Habitat's Urban and Territorial Planning Guidelines used for Plan Making in Serbia



Context map 1 Serbia

Since their adoption in 2015, the International Guidelines on Urban and Territorial Planning (IG-UTP) have been recognized in Serbia as the relevant global document to improve its planning practice. The guidelines are used to consolidate the tradition of plan making practices in Serbia to conform with the emerging global trends in planning. The guidelines were timely because the planners in ex-Yugoslavia and Serbia were always open to cooperation and therefore the first global document on spatial planning has been warmly welcomed in Serbia. The guidelines' principles and recommendations are currently being used for the preparation of the third national spatial plan for Serbia. The guidelines were also used during the elaboration of the first national urban development strategy in 2018. They complement the guidance provided by the New Urban Agenda and the Agenda 2030, and SDG11 in particular.

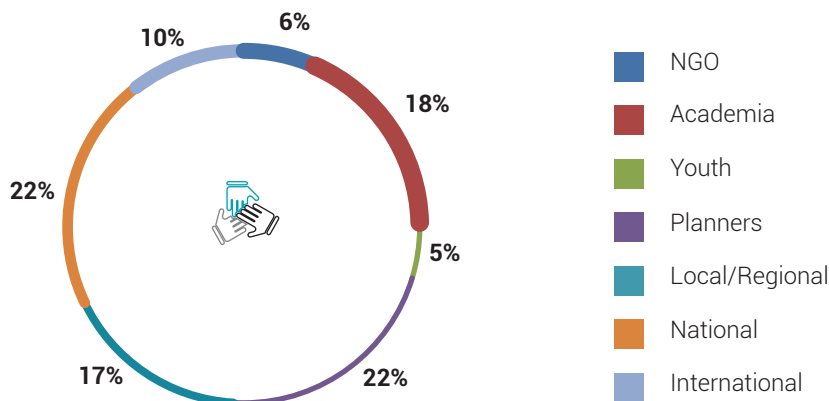
Thanks to New Urban Agenda and the IG-UTP, the Sustainable Urban Development Strategy of the Republic of Serbia 2030 is a new type of document that did not exist in the country's previous planning practice. The strategy provides a common framework for all urban settlements in the country in accordance with the multi-scale approach promoted by the guidelines. In the spirit of the guidelines, the strategy complements the national spatial plan that targets the entire national territory, taking into account horizontal integration with a focus on the inner urban space and urban-rural relations. The strategy embraces the integrated and multi-sector approach as outlined in the guidelines by announcing policy measures in the fields of economy, social wellbeing, environment, urban structures and governance. The strategy also builds on the practical recommendations of the guidelines by identifying six priority action areas: use of brownfield locations, illegal construction and informal settlements, public spaces, basic services, climate change, and cultural activities and heritage.

The strategy making process in Serbia had also applied the multi-stakeholder approach, which will be supported by co-designing of a three-year action plan. To monitor and evaluate the Sustainable Urban Development Strategy, stakeholders identified 40 urban development indicators, including 15 aligned with SDG11. For example, it is envisaged that the principles of the guidelines will be used to prepare Sustainable Urban Mobility Plans (SUMP) in selected cities such as Belgrade, Pirot and Šabac, which will

complement those already developed in the cities of Kruševac and Valjevo.

In addition to UN-Habitat's intentions to provide expert and other support for the implementation of the strategy, particularly in priority areas related to climate change and housing, there is also a growing interest from other international actors to participate in the planned activities, for example with regard to brownfields and again climate change, in an innovative way.

Share of Stakeholder Type Participation for National Sustainable Urban Development Strategy in Serbia



Moving ahead, Serbia is committed to using the IG-UTP to update, prepare and implement other types of plans in Serbia such as the regional and local spatial plans, urban plans and thematic area-specific plans. Four main types of thematic area-specific plans that would also benefit from IG-UTP are elaborated for infrastructure corridors, natural or cultural heritage, water accumulations and mining basins. Serbia already reported in the IG-UTP 2015-2017 report how diverse types of stakeholders and partners had been involved in the elaboration of all its planning and strategic documents.

The guidelines recognize five planning scales and six types of planning documents. In addition to cooperation with UN-Habitat, UNECE, UNDP and other global institutions, activities at supra-national and cross-border levels in Serbia also include cooperation with the European Union and the Council of Europe at continental level, as well as within the Balkan region at macro-regional level. National spatial planning priorities were identified in two consecutive national spatial plans, the first one in 1996 and the second one in 2010.

B. Training on the International Guidelines on Urban and Territorial Planning, 7 – 11 January 2018, Riyadh, Kingdom of Saudi Arabia



Context map 2 Saudi Arabia

From the IG-UTP Pillars of Implementation, this operational dimension involved building capacity and planning education in Saudi Arabia. The IG-UTP are intended to be a framework for improving global policies, plans, designs and implementation

processes, which will lead to more compact, socially inclusive, better integrated and connected cities and territories that foster sustainable urban development and are resilient to climate change.



Resolution 25/8 of the Governing Council “Encourages the Executive Director, within available resources and within the existing mandate of UN-Habitat, to help Member States, at their request and within mandated activities, to develop and review their national urban policies, including the content and process of urban and territorial planning, considering the principles of the International Guidelines on Urban and Territorial Planning, as well as developing new innovative tools in collaboration with local authorities and other relevant actors; “(para 19)

The **overall objective** of the proposed training programme was to build capacities of national and local planning authorities with regard to the IG-UTP and their components, in order to better equip them to respond to local challenges in an integrated manner.

More specifically, the IG-UTP capacity development programme of the FSCP targeted the following expected outcomes:

1. Awareness raised and knowledge enhanced on the principles and recommendations provided by the guidelines among the participants.

2. Needs and challenges within the Saudi Arabia planning context assessed in alignment with the concepts established by the guidelines.
3. Opportunities the guidelines can harness are identified to improve planning practices and address the urbanization challenges across Saudi Arabia.

The training began by building on the foundational principles of the guidelines themselves, moving forward to their application using the supporting materials and tools developed by UN-Habitat to localize the guidelines (e.g. the IG-UTP Handbook).

By practicing their application, national governments and local authorities, would be able to identify points for improvement within the Saudi Arabia planning system and be well-informed for its future review and reform.



Left: Training Session | Top: A group photo at the end of the training (Credit: UN-habitat, 2018)

i. What was achieved and way forward

To continue the transformative process and to increase the impact of the training, participants were encouraged to propose a set of personal actions which they would commit to in the months following the five-day training in January 2018. Participants could fill out their **Personal Action Planning for the Post-Engagement Phase** trainers are available to provide support where needed during the post-training period.

The character of this last phase of the training is voluntary and the work is believed to be ongoing at the time of this report. Its main purpose is to continue the training through a practical exercise already set in the participant's own work environment and independent of the trainers. Even though not all the participants handed in a written commitment, as at the time of the training, it is believed that working on a potential commitment already assisted the participants in reflecting on how to translate the lessons learnt during the training into their own line of work.

C. UN-Habitat Urban and Territorial Planning Guidelines used for NUP Making in Lithuania.



Context map 3 Lithuania

In the end of 2018, Lithuania's Ministry of Environment released a Lithuanian Urban Policy Framework (LUPF). The document is still being reviewed by the national government and relevant stakeholders and official approval is pending. Efforts to prepare such a document started in 2008 but were unsuccessful. The latest draft of LUPF was based heavily on the international guidelines of urban and territorial planning (IG-UPT), the New Urban Agenda, Agenda for Sustainable Development 2030 and reacted to the IPCC⁵ report published in the end of October 2018.

The goal of LUPF was to create the value basis and precondition for inter-institutional, cross-sectoral cooperation between different administrative levels and stakeholders in order to achieve sustainable urban development. The LUPF was not supposed to be a vision, nor was it supposed to become a toolbox of development guidelines. The document was a basis to restart a planning culture in a country that historically has a difficult relationship with it.

It was intended to be a document defining relationships between stakeholders who directly or indirectly impact development decisions, no matter how powerful they are or what sector they present.

Under the operational pillars of implementation on improving plans and design, the IG-UTP were used as one of the six key international reference materials, hand in hand with other national efforts and references, in preparation of the Lithuania National Urban Policy Framework.

In 2018, the proposal for the LUPF was developed paving way for the development vision "Concept for the Comprehensive Plan of Lithuania 2030 Between 2018-2019". It was the expectation of the Ministry of Environment to create guidelines for sustainable urban development, a national urban policy, under the LIETUVA 2030⁶.

Figure 4. LUPF contribution to LIEUTUVA 2030



One of the key lessons learned is an approach through 're-use and adapt' as there are a lot of valuable sources like IG-UTP which need or could be localized. **Out of the six international recommendations and references** in the formulation of the national urban policy, the **IG-UTP** were featured as key to aligning the structure and forms of implementation into the national urban policy framework.

Like Serbia, Lithuania has benefited from these resources as well as adapting from Serbia as a contextual example on its national urban policy formulation. Just as advocated by the guidelines, the Lithuanian Urban Policy Framework aims to create a flexible framework and a prerequisite for inter-institutional, cross-sectoral cooperation between different levels of administration with a view to the sustainable development of urban areas.

LUPF Preparation process⁷

The process started with an in-depth review of international recommendations, Lithuanian strategies and policies connected to the object of the LUPF and previous attempts to prepare urban policy framework and finally bring everything into a coherent, easy to understand value-based document.

Analysis of international recommendations and references

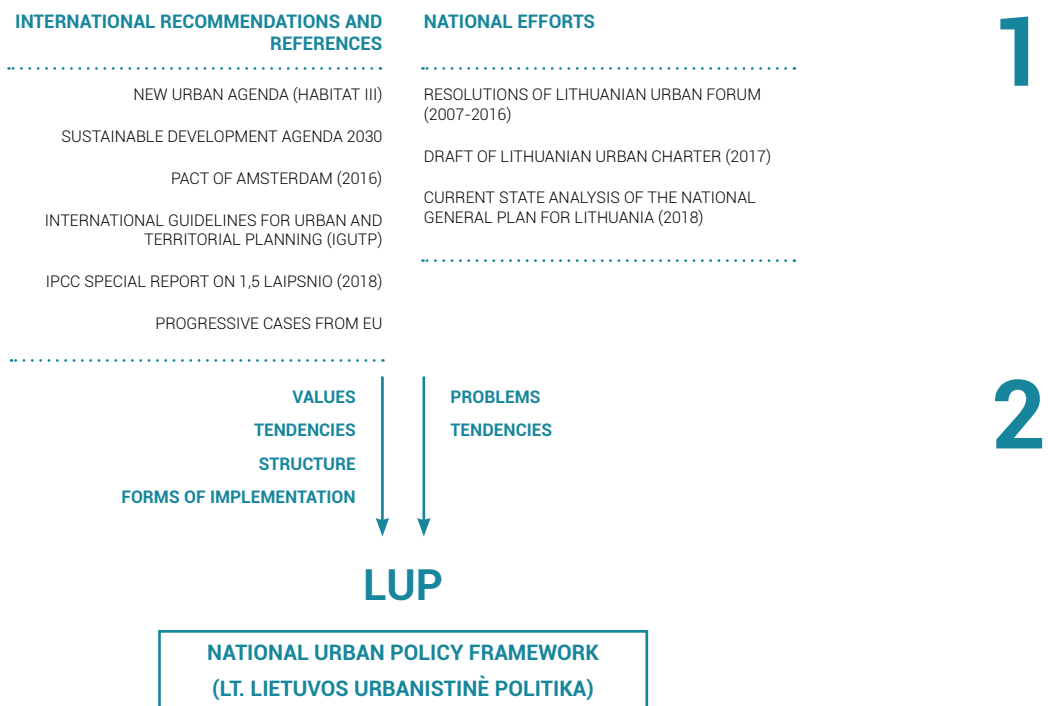
The first step was to analyse international documents related to sustainable urban development that included: Sustainable Development Agenda 2030, New Urban Agenda, Pact of Amsterdam, European Urban Charter and the Leipzig Charter. These documents provided a better understanding of possible structure of the document, how to formulate ideas and what themes are important to consider.

7 From: Ministry of Environment of the Republic of Lithuania, Živilė Šimkute (2018) "Pasiūlymai Lietuvos urbanistinei politikai". Retrieved from: www.urbanistinechartija.lt

International Guidelines on Urban and Territorial Planning (UN Habitat, 2015), **International Guidelines on Urban and Territorial Planning** (IG-UTP) Handbook (UN Habitat, 2018) and **National Urban Policy: A Guiding Framework** (UN-Habitat, 2015) were key documents, from which many concepts and ideas were reused and localized to the Lithuanian context.

These are useful sources that have strong structures and logic that cover complex concepts. This shows a good balance in the use of IG-UTP resources to structure a national urban agenda.

Figure 5. LUPF analysis methodology



(source: Zivile Simkute; KTU Institute of Environmental Engineering)

D. Localising the IG-UTP in African Countries through the African Union and the Economic Commission for Africa (ECA)

The African states, through the Sub-Committee on Urban Development and Human Settlements (HUD SC), an organ of the African Union comprised of all African ministers responsible for housing and urban development in Africa supported technically by the United Nations Economic Commission for Africa (ECA) and UN-Habitat, has resolved to work closely to promote the domestication and implementation of sustainable urban development in Africa aided by the framework.

This direction is buttressed by the Resolution of the UN-Habitat Governing Council which called on UN-Habitat to support Member States in the adoption and use of the guidelines, including through capacity and tool development, and the establishment of partnerships. Paragraph 4 of the resolution requested the Executive Director of UN-Habitat to assist interested Member States in using and adapting the guidelines to their contexts, where appropriate, and further developing tools and monitoring indicators for their implementation.

With a planned convening in WUF10, this will provide an opportunity for Africa to adapt the guidelines to that context and further develop tools and monitoring indicators for the implementation of the IG-UTP⁸ in the member states.

Importantly, this event will reiterate the need for Africa to craft homegrown solutions to the urbanization challenges, leaning from international tools, standards and best practices in urban and territorial planning. The Implementation framework⁹ for urban and territorial planning also provides guidance on the realignment and domestication of the guidelines to sub-regional and national circumstances in Africa. As a side event, it will also popularize the framework and the implementation of the IG-UTP in Africa in a number of ways, including regional, sub-regional, national and local dissemination and advocacy through the WUF (10) platform. This will, in turn, inform and guide the development of national action plans for the implementation of the IG-UTP based on the regional priorities.

It also follows the "Harmonized Implementation Framework for the New Urban Agenda (NUA) in Africa" draft of 1st November 2018. Under **Implementation Priority Area 4** on urban legislation, rules and regulations, **specific objective 4.7** focusses on "building capacities of local authorities on applying the International Guidelines on Urban and Territorial Planning (IG-UTP) and drafting corresponding regulations and by-laws that would guide them towards sustainable urban development (NUA 15, NUA 21, NUA 93)¹⁰;

8 Refer to UN-Habitat IG-UTP **monitoring indicators** and its set of **39 planning-oriented indicators** that support the efforts of UN-Habitat in tracking the influence of the Guidelines at the global, national, and regional levels

9 Refer to the UN-Habitat IG-UTP implementation framework.

10 November 2018, Harmonized Implementation Framework for the New Urban Agenda (NUA) in Africa"

E. UN-Habitat IG-UTP used in Mainstreaming policy and projects in FINLAND.



Context map 4 Finland

Finland, a major supporter of the guidelines, has been at the front in incorporating the guidelines in its programmes and strategies. The five ways in which national or sub-national policies or planning frameworks are being strengthened, and where the government has used some of the recommendations, are briefly described below.

1) Revision of the Land Use and Building Act 2019-2022 in order to strengthen and develop public participation, digitalization, the planning process, different levels of master plans, smart and climate friendly building, and alignment with other legislation (e.g., waste management, circular economy, chemicals).

2) Sustainable City - new programme aims to build the cities of the future.

The Sustainable City programme is accelerating sustainable development through practical urban development and city management. The main themes of the programme are carbon reduction, smart solutions, health aspects and social development.

In particular, the programme seeks out solutions that both connect these themes and fill in the gaps between them. The programme is part of Finland's work to implement the United Nation's New Urban Agenda, approved in 2016, the Sustainable Development Goals and the Urban Agenda for the European Union.

https://www.ym.fi/enUS/Land_use_and_building/Programmes_and_strategies/Sustainable_City_programme

3) Strategy 2030 - A better environment for future generations

The revised strategy of the Ministry of the Environment stretches to 2030 and has three broad impact objectives to ensure a sustainable living environment and growth. The strategy evolves over time. Measures and concrete paths of actions towards the objectives are updated on an annual basis.

[https://www.ym.fi/enUS/The_Ministry/Goals_and_results/Strategy_2030/Strategy_2030_A_better_environment_for_\(46921\)](https://www.ym.fi/enUS/The_Ministry/Goals_and_results/Strategy_2030/Strategy_2030_A_better_environment_for_(46921))

4) Agreements on land use, housing and transport

The state concludes agreements concerning land use, housing, and transport with the main city regions of Finland. These agreements enhance cooperation among the municipalities in the respective city regions and between the municipalities and the state in the steering of community infrastructure and coordination of land use, housing, and transport.

The aim is more functional and competitive urban regions and balanced development of the municipalities. The agreements specify, for example, the objectives for land use and housing production in the coming years and the key development projects concerning the transport network.

The state parties to the agreements are the Ministry of the Environment, the Ministry of Transport and Communications, the Housing Finance and Development Centre of Finland, the Finnish Transport Agency and the Centre for Economic Development, Transport, and the Environment

https://www.ym.fi/enUS/Land_use_and_building/Steering_of_land_use_planning/Landuse_housing_and_transport_letters_of_intent

5) Government decision on Finland's National Land Use Guidelines 2017

Finland's national land-use guidelines are part of the system of land-use planning alongside regional, master and local detailed plans specified in the Land Use and Building Act (132/1999). The primary purpose of the guidelines is to ensure that nationally significant matters are taken into account in county and municipal statutory land-use planning and the activities of central government authorities.

The other purpose of the guidelines is to promote the implementation of international agreements and commitments in Finland and to safeguard the appropriate actualization of national land-use solutions.

The following documents contain the key international decisions relating to the national land-use guidelines:

- Sustainable Development Goals – the 2030 Agenda
- UN-Habitat III – the New Urban Agenda
- Convention on Biological Diversity (Finnish Treaty Series 78/1994)
- Convention Concerning the Protection of the World Cultural and Natural Heritage (Finnish Treaty Series 19/1987)
- Convention for the Protection of the Architectural Heritage of Europe (Finnish Treaty Series 10/1992)
- European Convention on the Protection of the Archaeological Heritage (Finnish Treaty Series 26/1995)
- European Landscape Convention (Finnish Treaty Series 14/2006).

Subsections of the guidelines:

- Well-functioning communities and sustainable mobility
- Efficient transport system
- Safe and healthy living environment
- Vibrant natural and cultural environments and natural resources
- Energy supply capable of renewal

<https://www.ym.fi/download/noname/%7BC8DAA05E-FBC8-490E-A80537BCE01A1E43%7D/138177>



The city of Castries, Saint Lucia (cityofcastries.org)

III. PARTNERS: PROFESSIONAL INSTITUTIONS

A. IG-UTP used by partners: UNOPS and Territorial Capital Institute for Plan Making in CARICOM: Curacao, Saint Lucia, Saint Vincent

Context

In the IG-UTP pillars of implementation¹¹, under the operational area of improving plans and design (2.3), we are looking at some of the examples from the Caribbean Small island states. In the 2019's ISOCARP Review issue; 'Need to build in-house capacity to plan, design and implement urban and territorial strategic spatial plans, (Frank D'hondt, 2019)¹², some three case studies from this region were covered that were using IG-UTP at different scales of implementation.

In this contributory article, D'hondt highlighted that Caribbean Small Island States (CSiS) present a very different world compared with other land-locked countries like Afghanistan, West-Bank and Kosovo, where he had similar practical experience.

He notes that although aggravated by increasing threats related to climate change, they are the places where most people; both locally and from overseas, opt for holidays. Just as in other, similar contexts, they are also places where many local youth look for better job and life opportunities in more urbanized areas, nearby and even in distant mainland areas.

The three cases from the region take a deeper look at the course of practice and related challenges when localizing the guidelines. They also showcase the operational aspects of building capacity and planning education by citing the gaps present and opportunities in localizing urban and territorial planning.

11 Refer to the IG-UTP Pillars of Implementation under Chapter on key achievements.

12 February 2019, TRANSFORMING URBAN CURACAO; Community and expert visioning for localizing the new urban agenda.



Context map 5 Caricom

Disclaimer
The boundaries and names shown
and the designations used on
this map do not imply official
endorsement or acceptance by the
United Nations | Scale= 1:5 million |
Source: United Nations Geospatial

The Projects

In the context of **Curacao**, the project started on a micro-scale with a government request for a micro-assessment of several traffic roundabouts to alleviate increasing traffic congestion, and it ended with a macro foundation for an island-wide urban transformation Policy¹³.

Similar to the work UN-Habitat is doing with International Civil Aviation Organization (ICAO), in **Saint Vincent**, the prime minister requested ideas to convert a decommissioned airport near the capital city, Kingstown, after the opening of a larger and more remote new international airport.

Unlike the above, in **Saint Lucia** the main tasks revolved around assessing a 10-year-old plan for its capital city, Castries, and it ended up with the co-drafting of a new vision for the entire city region.

Done with the technical expertise from the United Nations Office for Project Services (UNOPS), the official Castries Vision 2030 report was presented to the Prime Minister of Saint Lucia, on 25 April 2019.

The objective of the Castries Vision 2030 was to review the 2008 National Vision Plan for Castries in a collaborative effort chaired by the Government of Saint Lucia through the National Integrated Planning and Programme Unit (NIPP), UNOPS, and with support from the Office of the Mayor of Castries. These consultations on the Castries Vision 2030 report began in 2018.. A key component of the plan is road infrastructure. The vision proposes to establish a new road hierarchy with highways outside of the city region, urban avenues inside the city region, and a north-south link corridor to bypass the city.

Both in **Curacao** and **Saint Lucia**, as part of inclusivity, the team worked in very close collaboration with the Curacao Ministry of Transport and Spatial Planning and the Saint Lucia Ministry of Finance and Economy, respectively. As advocated by the guidelines, this collaboration with different sectors was an interesting experience-exchange platform. This inclusive approach proved to be more favourable as there is less probability of bias from the non-specialized ministries than from the designated ministry for urban development.

In **Curacao**, the team embarked on localizing the New Urban Agenda. The Community-Vision workshops were entirely in-house, with tacit support by the local UNOPS team and an external adviser. It not only empowers NUA-minded civil servants the ministry but also civil society and un-associated residents taking part in the workshop. In this context, the experts drafted maps and narratives that were discussed with multiple audiences, resulting in a first draft of the Shared Vision Castries 2030, aligned with SDG 11, NUA and the IGUTP.



Combined lessons learned from **Curacao** and **Saint Lucia** experiences are that these small countries do not have all the capacities and skills needed for in-house planning. Hence, a more sustaining in-house/in-sourcing capacity development pathway could be explored by looking at capacity support

mechanisms at the regional level of the Caribbean, perhaps a Caribbean Urban and Territorial Planning Institute under CARICOM¹⁴ and with different language branches to better accommodate language preferences (primarily English, French, Spanish, Dutch and/or Papiamentu)¹⁵.

i. Takeaways and possibilities/ opportunities from this region

From these two contexts, we could deduce that planned urbanization and territorial development provides an avenue for sustainable social and economic development. In 'Leading Change - Delivering the New Urban Agenda through Urban and Territorial Planning', international planning experts strongly advocate engaging in urban and territorial planning processes that are strategic and participatory, with plans that are simple, clear and rapid.¹⁶

However, the high rate of urban growth far outpaces the capacity of many governments and other institutions to plan and manage this growth in a sustainable, effective and efficient manner.

In the slipstream of the New Urban Agenda, many scholars have already pointed at the dangerous gap between planning expectations and planning capacities, both in numbers and quality.

Equally, governments, education providers and the planning community will need to step up and scale up efforts to boost the planning capacities needed for basic in-house planning. Well stewarded in/outsourcing may be needed to advance more sustainable territorial development and prevent a looming discredit that the planning discipline is not able to deliver on its promises as expressed by SDG11, the NUA and the IG-UTP.



The IGUTP includes a recommendation to:

“Design a human resource development strategy to strengthen local capacities, to be supported by other spheres of government, as appropriate; reinforce institutional and human capacity development at the local level in the areas of planning, design, management and monitoring, through training, exchanges of experience and expertise, knowledge transfers and organizational reviews”

- 14 The Caribbean Community is an organization of 15 Caribbean nations and dependences whose main objective is to promote economic integration and cooperation amongst its members, to ensure benefits of the integration are equitable shared, and to coordinate foreign policy.
- 15 Frank D, 2019, ISOCARP Review 15,

16 South African Local Government Association (SALGA)/ UN-HABITAT, 2018.

The handbook to apply the IG-UTP (UN-Habitat, 2018) distinguishes 'planning capacity needs' that are considered essential capacities and skills to meet the planning challenges of a certain territory. The handbook defines 'planning capacity aspirations' as more ambitious goals of the medium and long terms, which look beyond current needs and towards desirable planning capacities¹⁷.

Capacity development needs to be planned and implemented. Typically termed 'capacity building', it means training. However, if decision makers, managers, professionals and technicians are to operate at full capacity, they need more than just their own capabilities; they need a conducive and supportive institutional and organizational environment.

From this perspective, the report acknowledges that capacity building for the implementation of IG-UTP- and NUA-related commitments must embrace three basic aspects¹⁸:



- **Human resource development (HRD)** - the process of equipping people with the understanding and skills, and the access to information and knowledge to perform effectively. Good HRD provides: incentives and rewards; opportunities for continuous training and retraining; clearly recognized career opportunities; and competitive pay scales. This requires a dynamic and responsive organizational environment;



- **Organizational development (OD)** - the process that promotes and sustains collective activity within an organization. It is about management practice, rules and regulations; hierarchies and job descriptions - the structures and practices that shape how things get done. Particularly in central and local governments, such structures and relationships might require significant changes. However, organizational changes often depend on institutional changes;



- **Institutional development (ID):** the legal and regulatory changes that must be made in order to enable organizations, institutions and agencies to enhance their capacities. It embraces such issues as the ability of local authorities to negotiate contracts and form partnerships with private companies and to enable and encourage communities to take responsibility for the management of their own neighbourhoods and services. Such institutional issues generally need the political and legislative authority of national governments to bring about effective change.

17 UN-Habitat, 2018, IGUTP Handbook

18 "Based on "Planning Capacity Appraisal Kosovo", UN-Habitat (unpublished) and "Making Planning Work – A guide to approaches and skills", C. Hague a/o, p.90

B. Spatial Planning Platform (SPP) activities around the world

Formed in 2016, the SPP seeks to make a network of all stakeholders and to support formulation and implementation of better spatial plans. Consequently, it contributes to implementing the New Urban Agenda and SDGs, together with the National Urban Policy Programme (NUPP) launched by the Organisation of Economic Co-operation and Development, UN-Habitat and Cities Alliance. On its activities aimed at supporting countries to develop territorial plans, the SPP has referenced its resources to UN-Habitat's IG-UTP.

In 2018, after three years of implementation of the guidelines, and with the support of the Ministry of Land, Infrastructure, Transport and Tourism (MLIT) of Japan and the Seinan Gakuin University, the IG-UTP partners came together during the 2018 Sustainable Urbanization Week in Fukuoka – also the host city of the third Expert Group Meeting that drafted the guidelines – to participate in the Global Symposium on Urban and Territorial Planning (GS-UTP).

Under the theme **"Improving Planning for More Sustainable Cities and Territories"**, the symposium convened experts and professionals from 30 countries from all regions of the world to discuss the centrality of the IG-UTP to the implementation of the New Urban Agenda and the achievement of SDG 11 and its interrelated targets. Paragraph 93 of the New Urban Agenda explicitly acknowledges the guidelines as a key mechanism to effectively deliver on its implementation.

In addition, a new tool by UN-Habitat to assess country and city-wide planning systems against the principles of the IG-UTP was presented during the symposium.



A group picture at the GS-UTP in Fukuoka, Japan, 2018. (UN-Habitat, 2018)

Overall, the discussions held during the GS-UTP revealed how the speed and scale of change is important to set cities and countries on the right path towards sustainable urban development and achieving the goals of the 2030 Agenda. The guidelines, through their new approach to urban and territorial planning, can be a central instrument in this approach. Additionally, the guidelines recognize that different actors and contexts have different needs, and that a set of universal principles – adequately localized – can pull them together towards attaining a common vision.

Still, numerous steps needed to be taken in order to accelerate these efforts and achieve this vision in a timely manner, including capacity building of the multiple actors involved in planning, upscaling engagements with the private sector and civil society, and creating an enabling policy environment for planning to achieve its purpose. The worldwide implementation of the IG-UTP was noted as not being the responsibility solely of UN-Habitat, but is a venture to be taken in partnership with members of the four stakeholder groups of the guidelines. This is a key role played by the SPP in supporting the localization of the guidelines.

UN-Habitat is committed to playing its role as a convener of actors and decision makers, setting trends and targets, and assisting with developing the tools necessary to 'improve planning towards more sustainable cities and territories'.

During the event, that was also geared towards raising awareness amongst its partners, some action points were agreed on;

1. Finalizing IG-UTP products in development
2. Achieving an agency-wide common understanding of the IG-UTP
3. Building the capacity of UN-Habitat Country Programme Managers around the IG-UTP
4. Developing a 'vision' for the global implementation of the IG-UTP
5. Enhancing the engagement with the IG-UTP Expert Group

It is good to note that, as key to the implementation of the guidelines, constant follow up and sharing of new literature and inspiring practices around the localization efforts is key to greater impact on implementing the guidelines.

There was a planned follow-up second Global Symposium on Urban and Territorial Planning which was supposed take place in **October 2020 in Morocco**, to review progress, achievements so far, and build capacity around implementation of the guidelines within partners. However, this has however been pushed forward owing the COVID-19 pandemic.

Through to 2020, SPP collaborated with **Malaysia** through **Malaysian Spatial Planning Initiative**, **Mozambique** through its **Territorial Planning system**, and **Uganda**, as presented in the joint updates prepared and presented during the World Urban Forum in Abu Dhabi, in February 2020.

Malaysia, through a WUF10 event "implementing territorial/ spatial planning systems and strengthening local capacities to achieve SDGs & NUA", gave a brief outline of the efforts the government through the **Ministry of Federal Territories**, state government and local authorities are engaged in in collaboration with SPP.

In Uganda, SPP looked the collaboration looked at the government appetite in using Territorial Planning as a tool to strengthen Urban Rural linkages in **Uganda**, while the **Mozambique** looked at **territorial planning** as an **avenue in attaining the SDGs**, by looking at the National Territorial Development Plan and it's nine strategic objectives.

These are some of the efforts SPP, as a UN-Habitat partner, has embarked on to localize the guidelines around the world by forming these alliances around urban and territorial planning. This is an opportunity that the Government of Japan embraced at Habitat III, in Quito in 2016 and that bore fruit in proliferating the importance of territorial planning as a universal entry point to achieving the SDGs.

IV. PARTNERS: ACADEMIC INSTITUTIONS

A. Experience with the use of IG-UTP in training, Case of South Africa's North-West University



3rd year Urban and Regional students of 2019 for the module SBSS313 (Planning for Sustainable Cities).

As with many of our academic partners, the dissemination of knowledge and the creation of capacity for UTP is one of the core aspects of

ensuring that the localization effort for IG-UTP has some traction.



The IG-UTP includes a recommendation to «*design a human resource development strategy to strengthen local capacities, to be supported by other spheres of government, as appropriate; reinforce institutional and human capacity development at the local level in the areas of planning, design, management and monitoring, through training, exchanges of experience and expertise, knowledge transfers and organizational reviews.*»

Also, under the IG-UTP operational pillar of implementation, 2.1, on Building Capacity and Planning education, the North-West University in

South Africa has pioneered incorporating training for UTP into their curriculum.

As noted from the university, **IG-UTP training is important incorporation into the school curriculum** under “Planning for Sustainable Cities”. The IG-UTP plays an important role in contextualizing sustainability and the role of planners towards realizing sustainability, and the guidelines provide a point of departure for in-depth discussions such as the contextual differences seen in the interpretation and implementation of sustainability practices. The IG-UTP makes “thinking globally, acting locally” possible, while teaching this subject at the university.

In the training, students were introduced to the guidelines and various theoretical classes were presented to ensure they understand the different sections and guidelines.

Students were requested to look for local examples pertaining to the social, environmental and economic guidelines. In this, they had to explain the guidelines, the case study they chose as the best local practice, and the relevance of this case study for future planning initiatives

Some of the notable **results/achievements** in training is that there are various unique case studies in South Africa that could be viewed as novel approaches to the IG-UTP from a contextual point of view – but most of these cases are not captured in literature. The student’s work enabled the capturing of these case studies and the first introduction of them into planning literature.

i. Challenges and Opportunities



As with all other avenues for localization of the guidelines, there were challenges that were faced and equally some opportunities identified in this case. Identifying the unique cases – as most of the cases are not documented, was time consuming to the find new and novel cases to capture, and in some cases, the data and information was limited.



7

CHALLENGES FACED



A. Case of implementing the guidelines through the “Framework and Guidelines on Land Policy through ECA”

The 2016 initiative on Implementing the Guidelines through Land legislation, under the theme of “Collaboration for Effective Implementation” failed to gain traction partly due **to lack of proper follow up** as well as **financial commitments**. This led to lack of momentum in the uptake of the guidelines by the stakeholders under the Global Land Tool Network (GLTN) umbrella, which is key to mainstreaming them in the land.

In the two day event, participants learnt about the IG-UTP and the Framework and Guidelines on Land Policy in Africa (F&G) spearheaded by the Land Policy Initiative and its application in integrating planning and land administration. The GLTN also shared a set of tools to support both urban and territorial planning and land policy processes.

Key outcomes of the workshop included **a** **communiqué and road map** that commit to the promotion of integrated planning and good land

governance through enhanced consultation, dialogue between **authorities** and **professionals** of **urban and territorial planning** and **land management/ administration** when implementing land and urban policies.

Other highlights of the roadmap included developing or reviewing land policies based on the International Guidelines on Urban and Territorial Planning; developing and reviewing land and urban-related legislation; developing the capacity of planners and land administrators in respective countries; bridging institutional and governance frameworks for land and planning officials in various countries; and promotion of research and development in land and planning and improvement of tenure systems in the respective countries. In **2020**, this effort through **the AU and ECA** was scaled-up to other regions in Africa to ensure the impact is felt across the continent .

B. Challenges encountered - Country accounts;



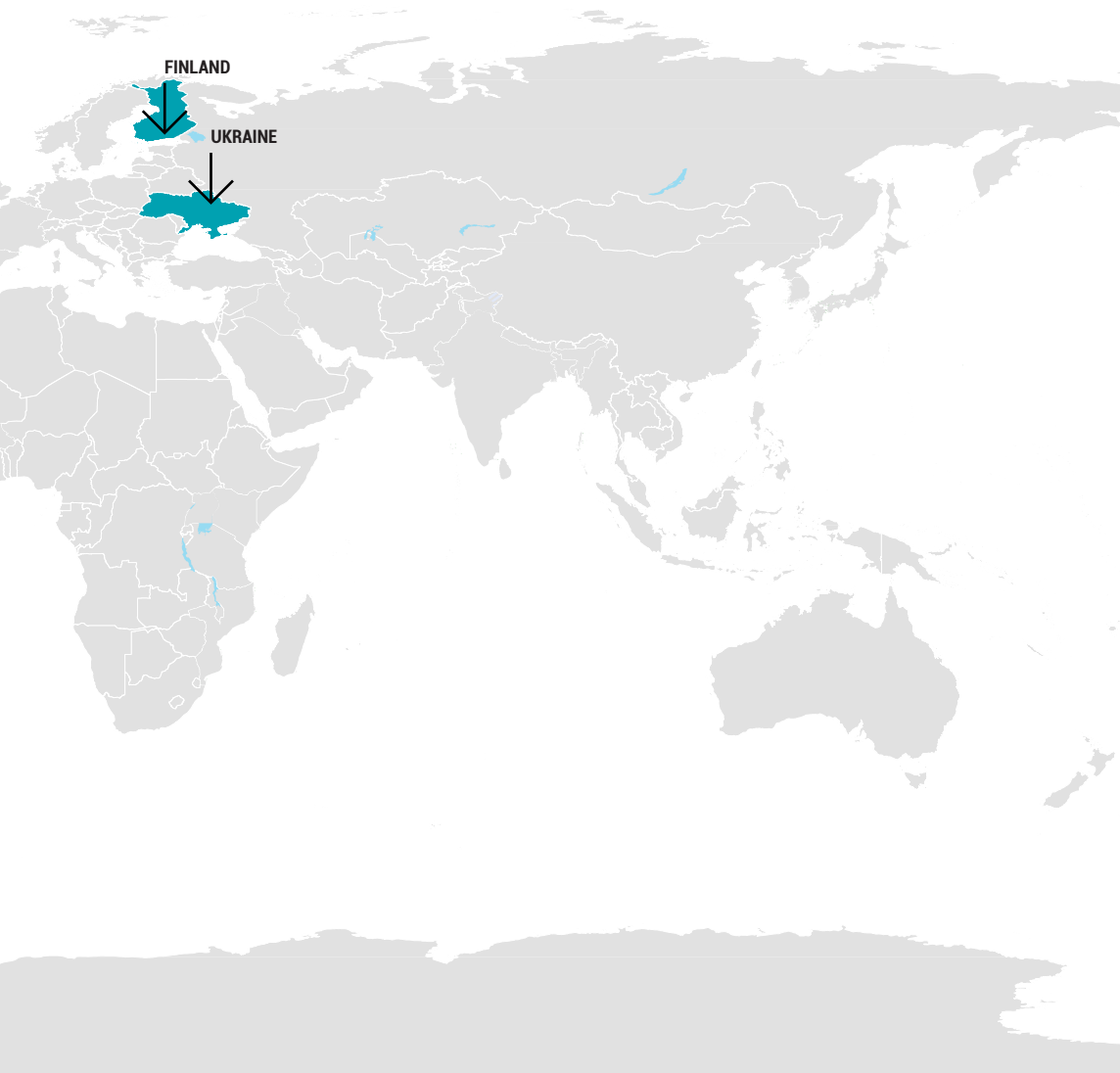
Disclaimer

The designations employed and the presentation of material on this map do not imply the expression of any opinion whatsoever on the part of the Secretariat of the United Nations concerning the legal status of any country, territory, city or area or of its authorities, or concerning the delimitation of its frontiers or boundaries.

Dotted line represents approximately the Line of Control in Jammu and Kashmir agreed upon by India and Pakistan. The final status of Jammu and Kashmir has not yet been agreed upon by the parties. Final boundary between the Republic of Sudan and the Republic of South Sudan has not yet been determined.

A dispute exists between the Governments of Argentina and the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland concerning sovereignty over the Falkland Islands (Malvinas).

The scale - 1:5 million.
Source: United Nations Geospatial



Through the UN-Habitat global survey , case studies submitted, publications and practice from professionals, the top emergent challenges encountered in the adoption and use of the guidelines over this reporting cycle and the previous one is institutional changes in terms of legislating change, lack of financing for implementation of the guidelines, still low awareness of the guidelines because of lack of a specific entity to mainstream them across hierarchies, lack of implementation speed of policies, and slow administration amongst others.

In the last reporting cycle, 'low awareness about the guidelines', 'lack of financing for international or local expertise', and 'lack of information on what it means to use and implement the guidelines' were the main highlights.

The biggest challenge, '**legislation as it relates to institutional changes**', is being addressed as a lengthy process at multiple levels.

Finland: "Revising legislation is a lengthy process involving numerous partners from different levels and sectors of government and civil society"

It is important to note that the many initiatives developed by UN-Habitat and partners to raise awareness on and advocate for the use of the guidelines have boosted the outreach and advocacy abilities, thus making it a priority in future initiatives considering awareness is the first step to adopting and using the IG-UTP in cities and countries.

A good case study that might have sprung from the case of lack of success on Implementing the Guidelines Through Land legislation, is "**Case of implementing the guidelines through the Framework and Guidelines on Land Policy through ECA**", being pioneered throughout African continent.

Also, the potential role of Member States in adopting and implementing the guidelines was addressed by the countries, including **Finland's** adoption of some of the principles in their planning process . For example, it states that "revising legislation is a lengthy process involving numerous partners from different levels and sectors of government and civil society", and this can be interpreted across many of the other Member States.

From a different aspect, **Mauritius** for instance argues that lack of speed in policy implementation and slow administration are key impediments to mainstreaming the guidelines in national policies, and a mitigating measure would be to revise governance structures, which equally requires state-wide consensus.

In the Latin American context, **Uruguay** for instance cites the key challenge as the incorporation of environmental and climate change issues into urban and territorial planning and management. The knowledge of the guidelines, which is pegged to advocacy efforts by both UN-Habitat and partners, is a secondary issue in their case.

In **Costa Rica**, in terms of improving the state of urban and territorial planning, the main challenge is to align all the actors involved with respect to: **1)** understanding the relevance of executing this territorial planning through current regulatory instruments that cover the different territorial scales with a waterfall planning logic (from the most general to the most specific); **2)** effectively prioritizing the necessary actions, including financing, so that each actor does what he or she is competent with in the matter and has the necessary tools **3)** solving existing institutional problems to make the above effective.

To promote and use the IG-UTP, given that it is not known or used in their country, it would be necessary for some competent institution to assume it as part of regular work to promote urban and territorial planning, disseminating its content, usefulness and forms of application.

Ukraine, as part of its advocacy, has organized the Signing of the Leipzig Charter for Sustainable Urban Development, and has held integrated development forums in cities. With these efforts, however, it states that in order to support UN-Habitat goals, foreign experts and grants, international technical assistance is needed to conduct research and prepare for changes in Ukrainian legislation for integrating the guidelines into the country's planning policy. It also notes that the IG-UTP recommendations are highly used in Ukraine, and does not give a lot of details in terms of current **challenges** in its efforts to mainstream the guidelines .

Compared to the last reporting cycle, in which **Argentina** suggested knowledge-raising events, capacity development schemes, conferences and even the use of mass media to raise awareness on the guidelines, this cycle had many localized efforts from the implementing partners within the territories , and part of these have been shared as best practices.

The second most-stated challenge by Member States in both reporting cycles is '**financing for international and local expertise**', and is an aspect that requires further attention and exploration in future.

Both in 2017 and 2019, the absence of financial support for mainstreaming the guidelines has become **UN-Habitat's major challenge for further expansion of the IG-UTP program**. However, partnerships, for instance within the urban health sector, have yielded fruit in terms of creating **opportunities** for entry points for localizing the guidelines¹⁹.

Without continuous financial support in the form of a fully-fledged support plan, efforts cannot be extended to technically assist cities and territories to localize the guidelines or to continue to develop the tools and exchange platforms needed to take this forward at the global, national and local levels.

19 Refer to the chapter on "Focus on Health" in the report.

Lastly, in the last cycle of 2017, some respondents, including **Portugal** and **Turkey**, expressed the need for customization of the guidelines to their local contexts, meaning that **it is not yet clear how to translate global principles into local reform**, as the IG-UTP are operating at the normative level. This was raised in practice in 2019 in the small island states of **Curacao, Saint Vincent** and **Saint Lucia**. It has been partly addressed through the translation of the guidelines into more languages

this cycle, which has a role in addressing the advocacy and outreach. However, even when the challenge of awareness has been addressed and overcome, the path towards localization still requires tailor-made technical assistance, either by UN-Habitat or implementing partners, in the form of tools and capacity building to review and reform planning systems. This, equally, has been addressed with the drafting of the training guide as well as the IG-UTP Handbook.



Sample specific observations/ Quotes from Members States;

Mauritius:

"Lack of implementation speed of policies and slow administration"

Action: revised governance structures

Uruguay:

"The key challenges are a) the incorporation of environmental and climate change issues in urban and territorial planning and management; b) knowledge of the guidelines."

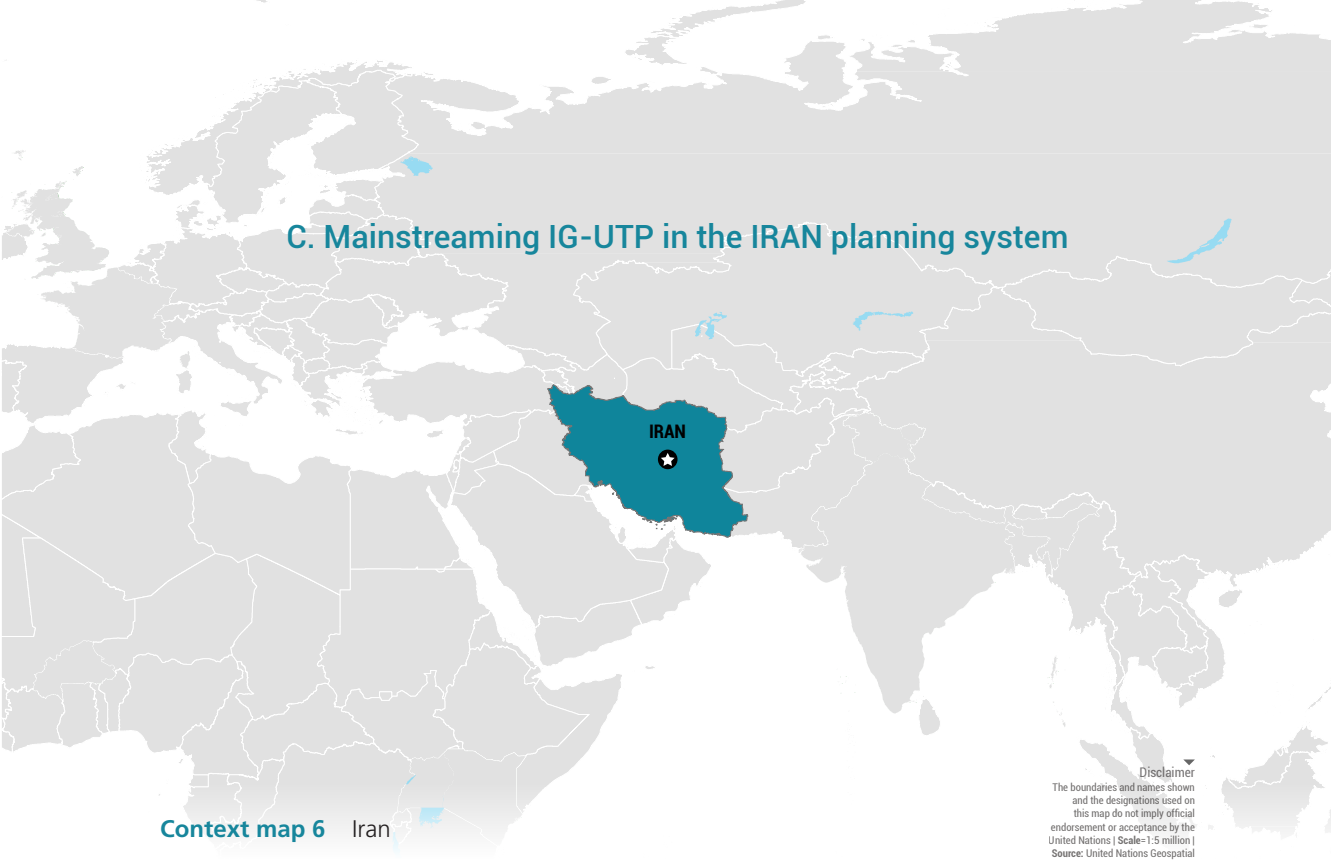
Costa Rica:

In terms of improving the state of urban and territorial planning, the main challenge is to align all the actors involved with respect to:

- i. Understanding the relevance of executing this territorial planning through current regulatory instruments that cover the different territorial scales with a waterfall planning logic (from the most general to the most specific);
- ii. Effectively prioritizing the necessary actions, including financing, so that each actor does what he or she is competent to do in the matter and has these financing instruments ;
- iii. Solving existing institutional problems to make the above effective.

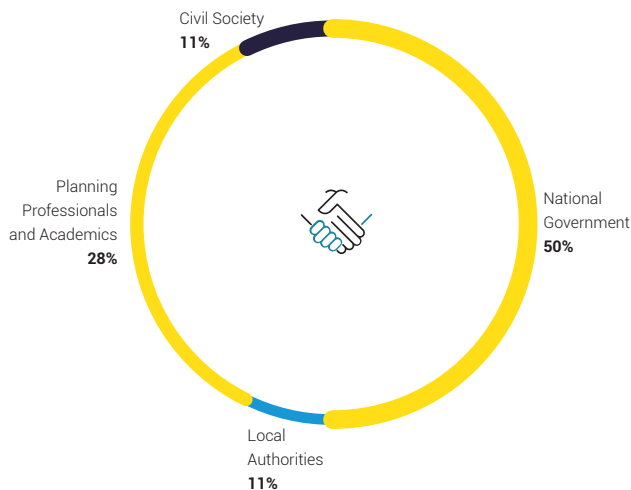
To promote and use the IG-UTP, given that it is not known or used in the country (although there are basic principles that apply in the absence of being covered by this guide), it would be necessary for some competent institution to assume it as part of ordinary work to promote urban and territorial planning, disseminating its content, usefulness and forms of application.

C. Mainstreaming IG-UTP in the IRAN planning system



In a new effort to localize the guidelines, the Ministry of Roads and Urban Development (MoRUD) in collaboration with UN-Habitat initiated a workshop that was designed to introduce the general framework and objectives of the International Guidelines on Urban and Territorial Planning and possible ways for collaboration with UN-Habitat partners in Iran.

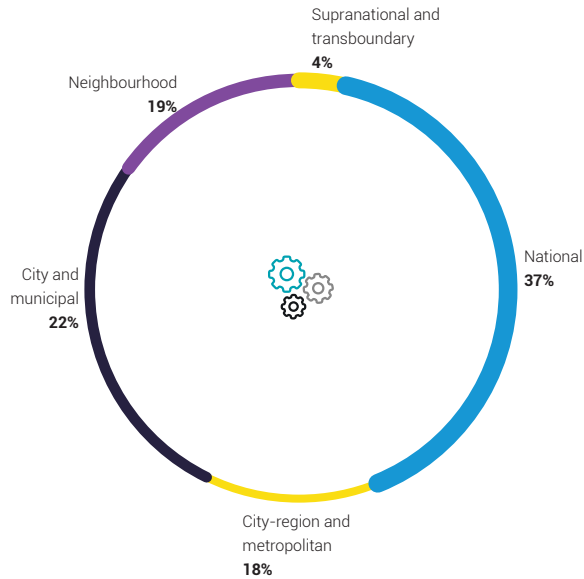
The workshop's outcome was expected to be achieved based on brainstorming and dialogue between participants and documentation of ideas, opinions and recommendations. It was the first step for drafting a roadmap for implementation of the IG-UTP in Iran.



Stakeholder Groups representation in the exercise (Source: UN-Habitat)

i. Entry Level for implementation

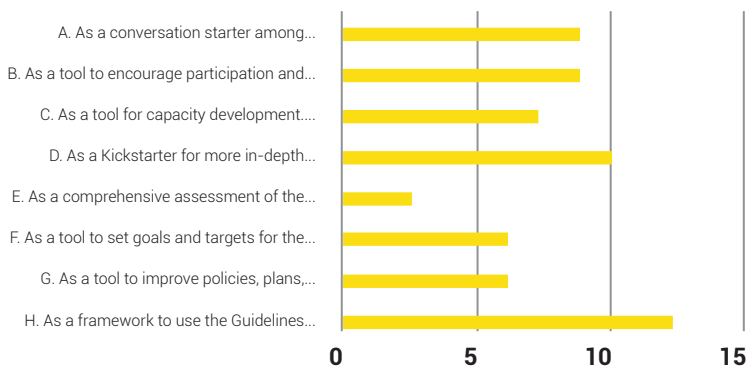
During this initial workshop, the participants who evaluated the applicability of IG-UTP in Iran's planning system determined the suitability level for initial action as below.



This showed that most of the interventions were preferably to be executed at the national level followed by city and municipal levels.

On the usefulness of the IG-UTP for the **planning system of Iran**, the results indicated that despite the emphasis on acupuncture pilot projects (option H), the IG-UTP can also contribute greatly to the existing process of **evaluating the planning system in Iran**, which has been one of the most important planning trends in recent years (option D).

The following chart demonstrates the opinions of participants;



The evaluation also looked at the possible **main actors in the implementation of the IG-UTP** and the Ministry of Roads and Urban Development was mentioned by a majority of participants as the main actor. More precisely, the Deputy for Architecture and Urban Development within the ministry has the main role in decision making and implementation of the IG-UTP. Overall, national government was claimed to be of high importance both in decision making (MoRUD, Ministry of Interior, Ministry of Cooperatives, Labour and Social Welfare, etc.), adequate legislation (Supreme Councils for Architecture and Urban Planning, Transportation, etc.) and implementation

(local planning authorities). The emphasis on governmental organizations by participants was based mostly on the current context for budget and resource distribution in Iran.

With regard to the participants, other stakeholders involved in urban decision making must have key roles in successful implementation, including **municipalities and professional planning and engineering associations**. The active role of **universities** as the main basis for mainstreaming sustainable urban and territorial planning was also mentioned.

ii. Key takeaways from this initial workshop discussions

As stated above, the workshop's outcome was designed to rely mostly on brainstorming and dialogue between participants, and the documentation of ideas, opinions and recommendations. Summarized discussion highlights are:

- The participants reached a consensus on adopting IG-UTP based on the local context. Factors such as existing the planning system, budget and resource distribution and current planning trends and priorities were mentioned as examples that should be considered in the process.
- In order to improve urban and territorial planning in Iran, it is critical to extract applicable strategies from the guidelines based on prioritized goals. Mentioned goals should be defined and prioritized according to the planning system through multi-stakeholder participation.
- It is important to consider all stakeholders as means of empowering groups which are more marginalized in the existing planning system. According to the participants, the civil society and professional supporting associations should be integrated in the process in order to improve urban and territorial planning in Iran.
- Universities have a critical role in mainstreaming and promoting IG-UTP principles among planning professionals. Also, universities along with governmental and non-governmental research centres are important stakeholders, working alongside the main actors.
- Capacity development is important in the process of implementing IG-UTP. Capacity development activities can be conducted in different levels and for different stakeholders. However, training of trainers (ToT) among planning professionals and academics was mentioned more often.

- It is very important to integrate the guidelines with the past or ongoing efforts in Iran. There have been similar projects that could be adopted alongside the guidelines to improve urban and territorial planning in Iran based on existing national research or practices. Accordingly, the IG-UTP is applicable as a means of overall evaluation of the planning system in Iran and eventually will help insure policy and planning improvement.
- IG-UTP is most of all a practical tool to facilitate inter-organizational participation and cooperation. Therefore it can be adopted to integrate with the urban and territorial planning at different levels, among different stakeholders through facilitation of dialogue and stakeholder engagement.

iii. Conclusions drawn from this initial workshop;

The results of the initial workshop indicated that the next step of the process of developing a roadmap for implementation of the IG-UTP would cover following issues:



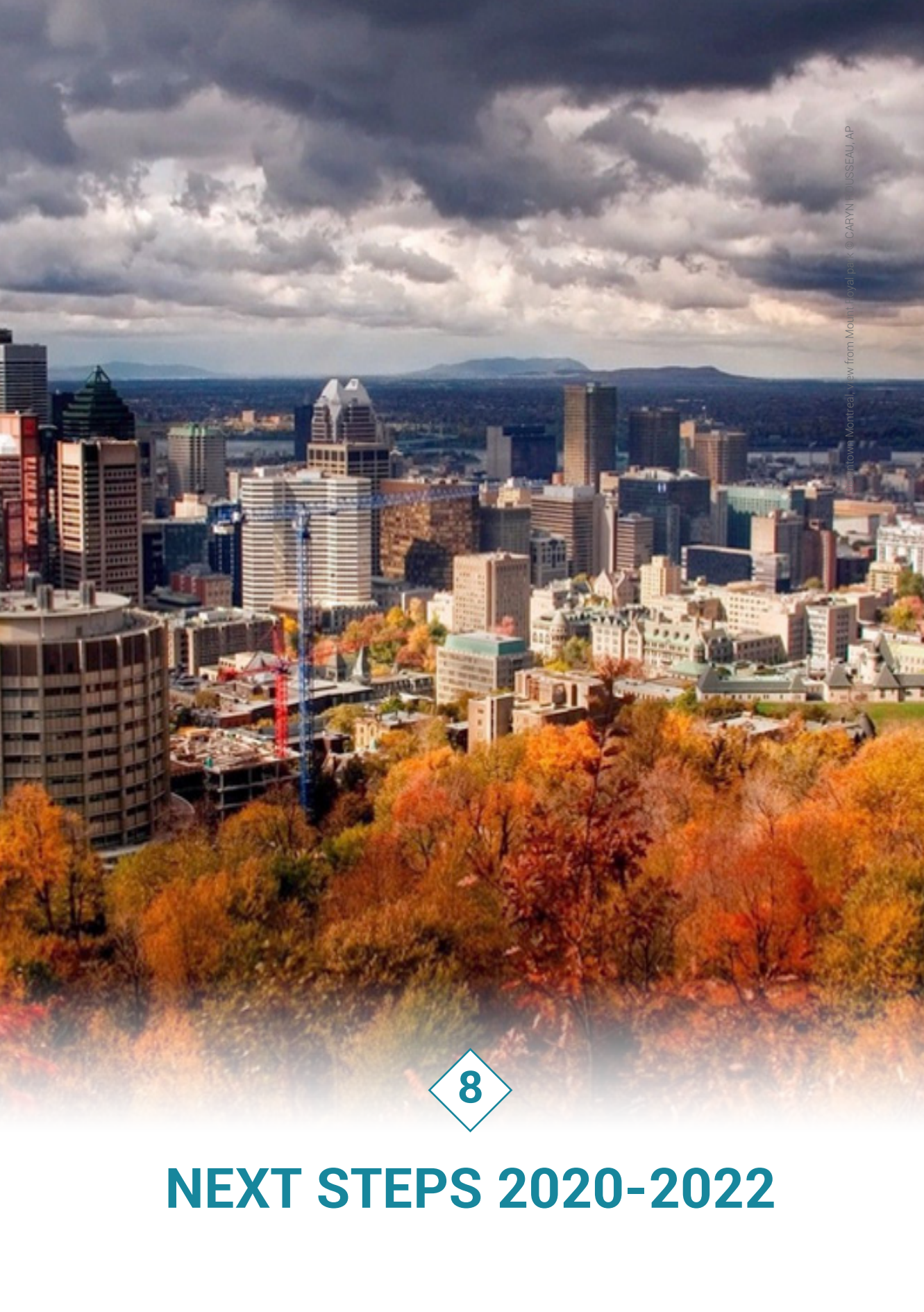
- a) Active involvement of main identified stakeholders through expert meetings
- b) Design the training modules for detailed needs assessment prior to implementation of the IG-UTP in Iran
- c) Develop the overall goal and approach for implementation of the IG-UTP based on (a) and (b).

iv. Main Shortfall

Despite the initiative to localize the IG-UTP being welcomed during the first workshop in Iran, the key issues that were identified as impediments to the advancement of this were **majorly attributed to the lack of financing framework.**



It could thus be a challenge being faced in many regions of the world in the effort to localize the IG-UTP, but in this case specifically it is a failed effort, partly emanating from the Iranian Government's lack of appetite to incorporate it into its planning system.



Montreal, view from Mount Royal park © CARYN FLOUSSEAU, AP

8

NEXT STEPS 2020-2022



The second biennium (2018-2020) of implementation has concluded. While it built on the first biennium (2015-2017) which served mainly as a period of preparation for stakeholders worldwide, the second biennium moved towards an action-oriented and entry point approach¹.

UN-Habitat and partners have made considerable efforts in the implementation of the IG-UTP as a response to the call in Resolution 25/6 of the Governing Council, however, the lessons learned during this past period indicate several areas for improvement in the activities outlined in the Implementation Framework of the Guidelines.

A. Overcoming the COVID-19 pandemic through urban and territorial planning

As 2020 progressed with the pressures of the COVID-19 pandemic, regional connectivity played a key role in the initial spread of the virus in China and then to other parts of the world. Subsequently, restrictions on movements and lockdowns revealed that supply chains, particularly essential goods such as food, are impacted by the organization of cities within regions and their connections and dependence on other cities, peri-urban and rural areas.

The IG-UTP framework aims to increase these connections between cities and between urban and rural networks. It provides a framework for the implementation of global agendas like Agenda 2030 based on designing and implementing large-scale, complex and comprehensive plans. Planning efforts at the regional scale aimed at protecting natural habitats and biodiversity can strengthen blue-green networks and improve air quality and overall health across the globe. These efforts are not only valuable in improving resilience or public health outcomes, but also in combating the adverse effects of climate change.

The IG-UTP along with other UN-Habitat efforts, such as the forthcoming UN-Habitat report "State of the World's Cities in a World with Pandemics", covers from the regional to the building scale, the spatial patterns and dynamics in the face of the pandemic towards functionality density and design of human settlements. It provides guidance and enough flexibility for adaptation at any national or sub-national context to improve the planning system, so that appropriate measures in the current and future pandemic responses can be taken and to build resilience for the medium to long-term approaches that cause minimum disruption to the functioning of complex systems and livelihoods associated with them.

For the forthcoming biennium (2021-2023), particular focus will be on making use of the guidelines for an improved environment in a pandemic and post-pandemic context, aiming not only to focus on human health and planetary health, but also on the impact the planning system has on improving resilience.

B. Areas to be prioritized

Not only will these lessons guide the future work of UN-Habitat and the IG-UTP, but will be applied in new enterprises to advance the use of the guidelines at the operational level.

Moving from the global to the local level, the following areas have been identified as the priorities for the forthcoming biennium.

¹ Refer to the chapter on "Focus on Health" in the report.

i. Cross cutting activities; knowledge sharing, awareness, advocacy and Monitoring

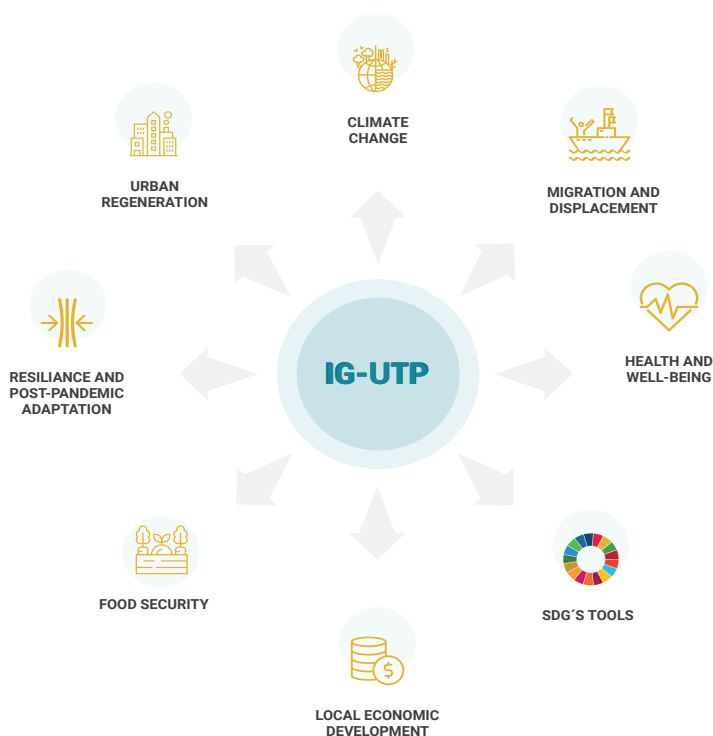
Although much emphasis has been placed on this cross-cutting area in the overall implementation, forthcoming activities should not undermine the importance of 'awareness and advocacy' as a key step for countries and partners to meet, comprehend and ultimately, adopt the guidelines to their local context.

Special attention needs to be given, as it has been explicit announce through the results of booth Global Survey on Urban and Territorial Planning, where, low awareness was highlighted . Partnership building has been an opportunity to expand the IG-UTP, resulting, for example, in the implementation of the guidelines for the improved health and well-being of people.

Knowledge sharing at all levels needs up-scaling to empower the four stakeholder groups to adopt and use the guidelines within their local context, and peer-to-peer learning initiatives need to be set in place. As observed in the experiences with the IG-UTP, the two compendiums of inspiring practices have been instrumental in transferring experiences on UTP while using the IG-UTP or other frameworks. The third edition of the IG-UTP Compendium of Inspiring Practices is schedule to be launched by 2021.

Lastly, the second International Symposium on Urban and Territorial Planning will take place in the upcoming biennium, which will provide a platform for knowledge sharing and will put the IG-UTP at the centre of the discussion of the many linkages it has.

Figure 6. Urban and territorial planning linked to different thematic



However, the worldwide implementation of the IG-UTP is not the responsibility of UN-Habitat alone, but is a venture in partnership with members of the four stakeholder groups of the guidelines. So far, UN-Habitat and a number of IG-UTP champions have taken the lead, setting the foundation for taking the guidelines forward, but additional support is needed to attain the objectives outlined in the IG-UTP, and at the broader level, reach the targets established by the New Urban Agenda and the Sustainable Development Goals. In this context, UN-Habitat makes an urgent call to action for Member States to further assist and make

possible the adoption and use of the guidelines in cities and territories for the achievement of sustainable urban development, and to report back on the updates on UTP in their countries.

Regarding monitoring and evaluation, in-place mechanisms such as biennium global reports will continue to be used for monitoring, evaluating and defining the IG-UTP next steps. The next report will be on events from 2021 to 2023. We encourage partners and Member States to commit and take part in the upcoming reporting and data collection.

ii. Tool development

The continued development of tools must take into account the different targets and interests of each stakeholder group through the customization of learning materials. Moreover, special attention should be given to developing tools to build back better from the COVID-19 pandemic; they could be directed towards growing awareness of the higher-level actors, building the technical capacities of local practitioners, and increasing knowledge of UTP and its benefits for climate change and resilience.

The IG -UTP Handbook provided technical guidance on how to translate the global principles contained in the guidelines to the local level; now, we are moving towards making available a toolkit for localization which will include a series of methodologies and e-tools to assist stakeholders in the review and reform of their local planning system.

Similarly, in the area of building back better from the COVID-19 pandemic through urban and territorial planning, a special focus will be on the planning system assessment tool which is in development with the support of the key partners, including ISOCARP, to assist planning constituents in making health a central objective in the discipline.

The IG-UTP principles will be included in existing UN-Habitat tools for mapping and profiling to ensure the principles are being taken into account, which will support the application of the guidelines on the ground.

Regarding health and the IG-UTP, tools for the implementation of the Sourcebook, Integrating Health in Urban and Territorial Planning will be a priority; a training manual with different modules will be the starting point to further develop tailored training programmes for different needs and scenarios.

iii. Policy dialogue and political engagement to implement UTP principles and good practices

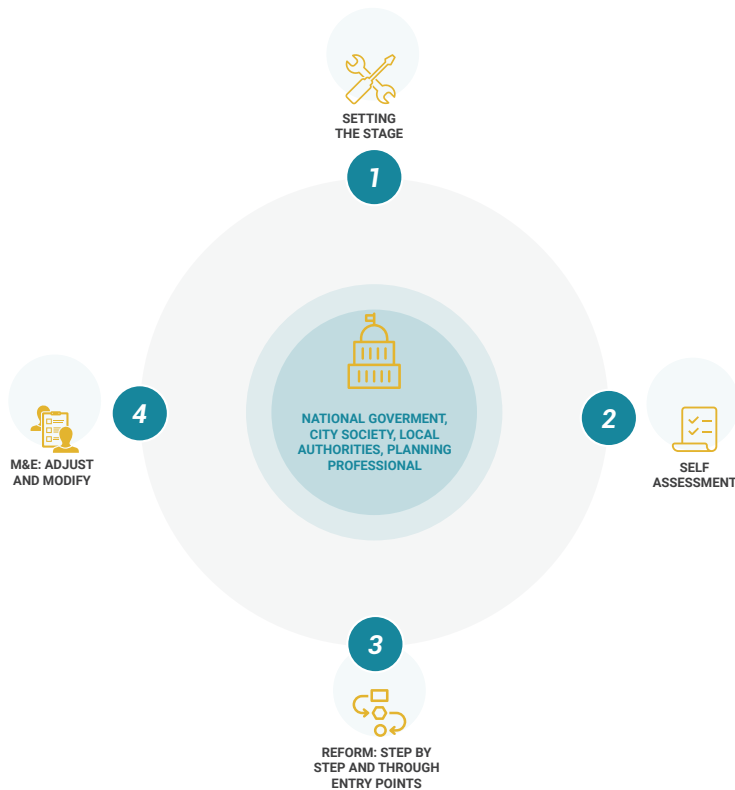
The regional ministerial and local authorities play a leading role in the improvement of UTP. UN-Habitat's and partners' experience are both a catalyst and convener among the stakeholder groups of the guidelines as, in the end, local authorities are the 'ambassadors' in charge of translating national-level policies and frameworks to punctual actions at the local level.

Workshops and study tours focused on how regional and local authorities have implemented UTP principles and shared good practices in order to accelerate policy dialogue. Emphasizing local actions can be useful to get traction at the higher levels, a reflection on how making different institutional entries as inspired by the IG-UTP generates complementarities to bring about change in planning systems.

iv. Implementation of the Guidelines

In practice, the implementation of the guidelines will have three main objectives: the planning system is improved, plans and design are improved, and legal and regulatory systems are adjusted.

The experiences with the guidelines demonstrates how a robust and well-funded planning system is a determinant for the successful improvement of policies, plans, designs and implementation processes of UTP.



Four steps had been identified for an effective review and reform of the planning system.

1. Setting the stage with awareness and knowledge sharing
2. Self-assessment
3. Reform step by step and using different entry points for example health, or public spaces
4. Monitoring and evaluation and where needed adjust and modify.

Even though the implementation of the IG-UTP is a long-term endeavour for the improvement of planning practices among Member States, outcomes from the foundational activities carried out in the programme are already visible (e.g. the increased interest in making use of the guidelines for the improved integrating health into UTP).

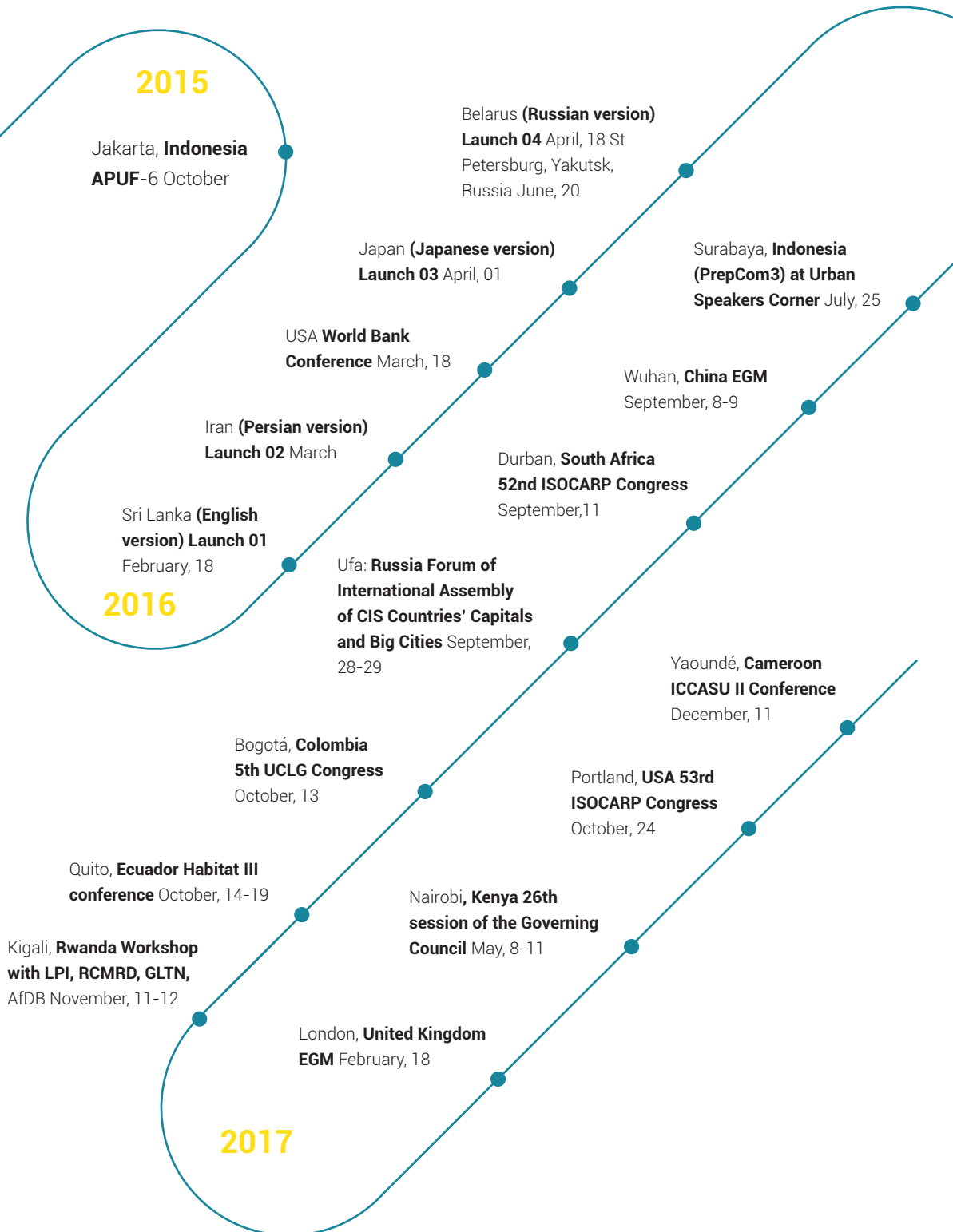
Still, further implementation must take into account the value of monitoring and evaluation to ensure a continuous improvement of practices and activities taking place for the IG-UTP.



9

ANNEXES

ANNEX 1: IG-UTP EVENTS - 2015-2019





2018 and 2019

Event	IG-UTP Implementation Framework	Date	Location	More details	Organizer
SOU 96 - Urban and Territorial Planning for improved socio-economic outcome	-	20th – 24th November 2018	Marrakesh, Morocco	As part of the Africities 8 Summit	SALGA is the organizer of the SOU. The bodies in charge of the preparation and implementation of the Africities Summit are: the Political Commission, the Executive Commission and the Operational Commission
Global Symposium on Urban and Territorial Planning	EA 1. Output 1.3	30 July - 1 August, 2018	Fukuoka, Japan	Improving Planning for More Sustainable Cities and Territories". The event took place over the course of three days and will hold the IG-UTP as the central element	UN-Habitat, Seinan Gakuin University, Ministry of Land, Infrastructure and Transport; Fukuoka City
9th World Urban Forum "High level roundtable"	-	Feb -18	Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia	High-level Roundtable "An integrated territorial approach to sustainable urban development" and the Dialogue "Urban Planning and Design for Local Implementation". / Side Event "Implementing the New Urban Agenda through the establishment of the Spatial Planning Platform" (International Guidelines not explicitly addressed during the round table)	
"Sustainable urban planning and housing: national priorities of the Republic of Belarus and international best practices".		31 May - 1 June 2018	Grodno, Belarus	Sustainable urban planning and housing: national priorities of the Republic of Belarus and best international practices	Ministry of Architecture and Construction of the Republic of Belarus, Ministry of National Resources and Environment of the Republic of Belarus, UNDP, UNECE and UN-Habitat

IMPLEMENTING THE IG-UTP 2018-2020

Workshop IG-UTP training in Senegal	Output 4.2	30th of January 2018	Senegal	In the context of operationalization of the New Urban Program, Enda ECOPOP workshop to share the International Guidelines on Urban and Territorial Planning (LDI/PUT)	Collaboration with the Ministry of Urban Renewal, Habitat and Living Environment of Senegal, UN-Habitat and the National Habitat Committee 3 of Senegal
Workshop on IG-UTP in the RNIT conference	Output 4.2		Montpellier, France	Name of the workshop: From global urban planning to local citizen approaches: small and medium-sized cities are at the heart of the transition	RNIT
Workshop "Implementing Urban and Territorial Planning through the 'lens' of Health"	Output 4.2	November 26, 2018	Kampala, Uganda	Part of the 15th International Conference on Urban Health.	Focal point UNH, Partners: WHO
15th International Conference on Urban Health	See above	November 26-30, 2018	Kampala, Uganda	UN-Habitat hosted three events a Workshop, a Book Launch and a Panel Session, which touched upon different approaches reflecting on how Health and the Built Environment are interlinked.	
Workshop on Sustainable Urban Planning and Design in the Moroccan and African contexts	Output 4.2	January 4-5, 2019	Marrakesh, Morocco	The training introduced more than twenty students from the Resilient, Sustainable and Smart Buildings & Cities (RSSB&C) Master's programme	Mohammed VI Polytechnic University (UM6P)
Workshop on Housing Policy and Health	Output 4.2	March 12-14, 2019	Douala, Cameroon	UN-Habitat will present its vision on health-oriented urban and territorial planning for the implementation of the New Urban Agenda and the SDGs	Close collaboration with researches from the university of Cape Town in South Africa

IMPLEMENTING THE IG-UTP 2018-2020

EGM/Workshop "Implementing the IG-UTP for improved Health". UNHA Side Event: "Innovations in Urban and Territorial Planning tools for Healthier Cities"	Output 4.2	May 24-25, 2019	Nairobi, Kenya	The theme for the UN-Habitat Assembly (UNHA) is "Innovation for Better Quality of Life in Cities and Communities"	
Brainstorming Workshop on the Implementation of the IG-UTP	Output 4.2	03-Oct-18	Tehran, Iran		

ANNEX 2: IG-UTP PARTNERS – 2015-2019

National Governments

Government of Japan Government of Indonesia Government of France Government of Norway
Government of South Africa Government of Uganda

International Organizations Cities Alliance Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development (OECD) World Bank The Prince's Foundation for Building Community

Local Authorities & Associations United Cities and Local Governments (UCLG) City of Fukuoka International Assembly of Capitals and Big Cities (MAG) South African Local Government Association (SALGA)

Associations of Planning Professionals International Society of City and Regional Planners (ISOCARP) Global Planning Education Association Network (GPEAN) Commonwealth Association of Planners (CAP) Belarus Institute of Regional and Urban Planning (BIRUP)

UN-Habitat Branches Urban Legislation, Land and Governance Branch of UN-Habitat (ULLG) Urban Economy Branch of UN-Habitat (UE) Urban Planning and Design Branch of UN-Habitat (UPDB) Research and Capacity Development Branch of UN-Habitat (RCBB)

Civil Society Organizations Enda Tiers Monde International Real Estate Federation (FIABCI)

UN Agencies United Nations Center for Regional Development (UNCRD) United Nations Economic Commission for Europe (UNECE) World Health Organization (WHO)

UN-Habitat Regional Offices UN-Habitat Regional Office for Asia and the Pacific (ROAP) UN-Habitat Regional Office for Arab States (ROAS)

2018-2019

Type of Partnership	Partners	Date	Implementation Framework	Location	Country	Other details
MoU	Mohammed VI Polytechnic in Morocco	2019	EA5	Marrakesh	Morocco	The School of Architecture, Planning & Design (SAP + D) seeks to be a center of innovation in Architecture, Planning and Design through education and research that meet the needs of Africa and Morocco.
Letter of intend	University of Pecs	2019	EA5	Pecs	Hungary	A curriculum focused on the International Guidelines on Urban and Territorial Planning (IG-UTP) for programmes in Urban Studies will be developed
MoU	Institute of Urban Environment (IUE), Chinese Academy of Arts and the International Cience Council, Urban Health and Wellbeing Programme	2019	EA5	Paris	France (International Science Council); China	Cooperation on Implementing Urban and Territorial Planning and Policy for Improved Health and Wellbeing

ANNEX 3: SERBIA NV TO UN-HABITAT ED SHOWS COMMITMENT TO ADVANCING THE GUIDELINES IN THE COUNTRY

Република Србија
Потпредседница Владе
- Министарство
грађевинарства, саобраћаја
и инфраструктуре
Немањина 22-26
11000 Београд



Republic of Serbia
Deputy Prime Minister
Ministry of Construction,
transport and infrastructure
22-26, Nemanjina Str.
11000 Belgrade
Serbia

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Courtesy translation
Belgrade, 20th of January 2020

UN-Habitat – United Nations Human Settlements Program
- Maimunah Mohd Sharif, executive director -

Nairobi 00100, Kenya
P.O. Box 30030

Dear Ms. Sharif,

The Strategy of Sustainable Urban Development in the Republic of Serbia until 2030 was adopted by the Government of Serbia in 2019, with six priority topics:

1. Industrial/business and commercial zones and brownfield sites;
2. Informal settlements and urban-rural linkages versus urban sprawl;
3. Endangered urban structures, urban matrices and public spaces;
4. Parts of urban settlements with social inclusion and poverty reduction as priorities;
5. Settlements or parts of settlement affected by climate change problems;
6. Spatial units with cultural heritage sites and areas of cultural activities.

The Ministry of Construction, Transport and Infrastructure would like to reinforce cooperation with UN-Habitat to support the aforementioned Strategy. The Strategy is closely linked to the targets of Sustainable Development Goal 11, recommendations of the New Urban Agenda and of the International Guidelines on Urban and Territorial Planning. An Action Plan will be finalized in the coming months as the initial step for the implementation of the strategy, and we would like to seek UN-Habitat's active engagement in the same. Republic of Serbia is also committed to the regional cooperation within Western Balkans.

Following the missions of UN-Habitat to Serbia in 2018 and 2019 and given the wide range of possibilities for cooperation as well as the fact that the Republic of Serbia is currently a member of the UN-Habitat Executive Board, vice-president of UNEA and vice-president of COP26, it would be of mutual strategic importance that UN-Habitat opens a Regional Office for South-East Europe in Belgrade and Ministry of Construction, Transport and Infrastructure invites UN-Habitat to do so as quickly as possible.

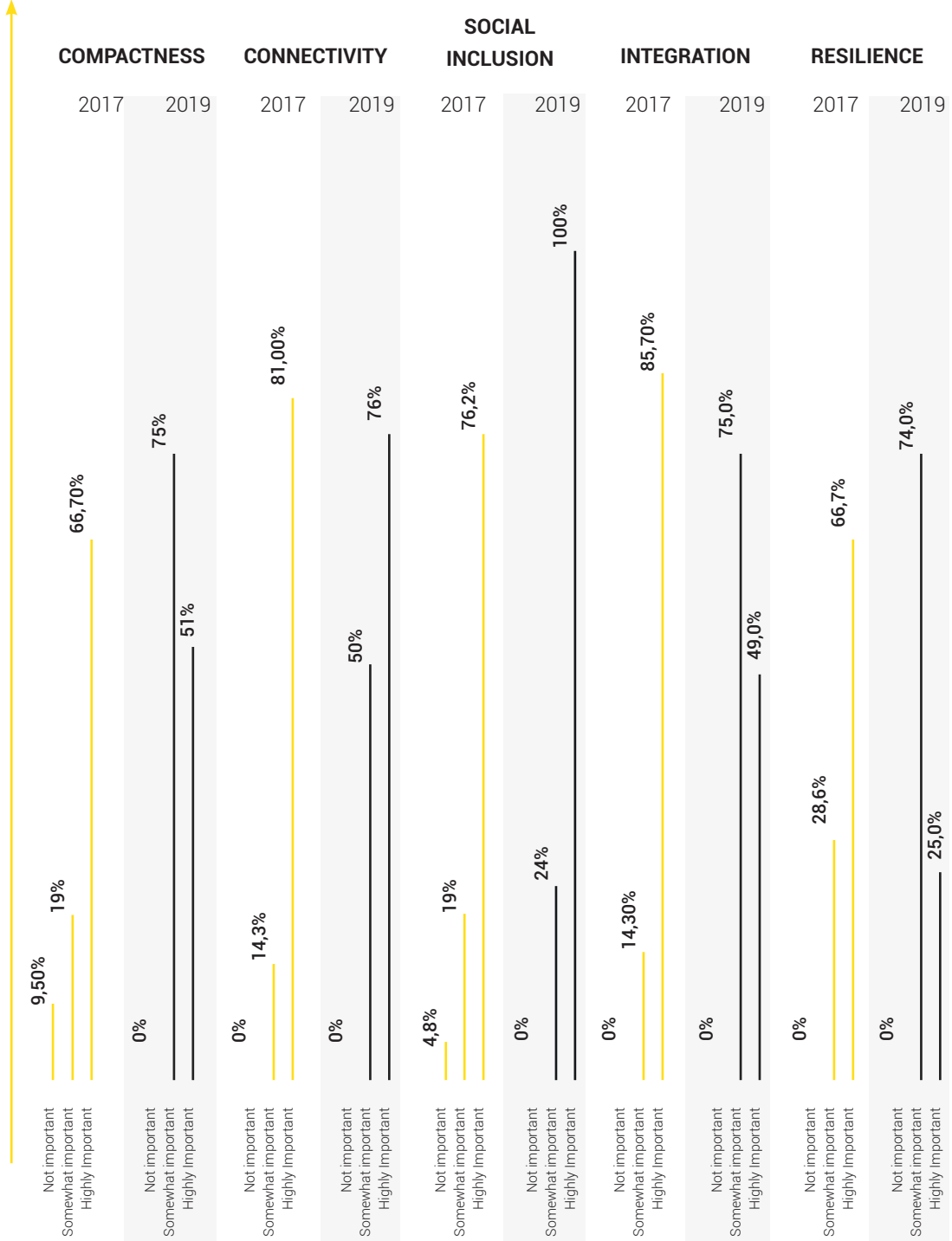
With best regards,

DEPUTY PRIME MINISTER
AND MINISTER

Professor Zorana Z. Mihajlovic, PhD

ANNEX 4. USE OF THE GUIDELINES

URBAN AND TERRITORIAL DEVELOPMENT WAS A PRIORITY FOR THEIR COUNTRY





IG-UTP REPORT 2018-2020

HS Number: 057/20

For further information, please contact:
UN-Habitat Policy, Legislation and Governance Section
Urban Practices Branch, Global Solutions Division
www.unhabitat.org

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