

URBAN PLANNING AND DESIGN AT UN-HABITAT

UN-HABITAT AT A GLANCE

The United Nations Human Settlements Programme (UN-Habitat) is the United Nations programme working towards a better urban future. Its mission is to promote socially and environmentally sustainable human settlements development and the achievement of adequate shelter for all.

Cities are facing unprecedented demographic, environmental, economic, social and spatial challenges. There has been a phenomenal shift towards urbanization, with 6 out of every 10 people in the world expected to reside in urban areas by 2030. More than 90 per cent of this growth will take place in Africa, Asia, Latin America and the Caribbean. Mindsets, policies and approaches towards urbanization need to change for the growth of cities and urban areas to be turned into opportunities that will leave nobody behind.

UN-Habitat assumes a natural leadership and catalytic role in urban matters. It is a knowledgeable institution on urban

development processes, understands the aspirations of cities and their residents and is mandated by the United Nations General Assembly to address the issues of urbanization.

For almost 40 years, UN-Habitat has worked in human settlements throughout the world, focusing on building a brighter future for villages, towns, and cities of all sizes. These four decades of experience, from the highest levels of policy to a range of specific technical issues, gives UN-Habitat a unique and a universally acknowledged expertise in all things urban and places it in the best position to provide answers and achievable solutions to the current challenges faced by the world's cities. UN-Habitat works to ensure that cities become inclusive and affordable drivers of economic growth and social development to formulate the urban vision of tomorrow.



...To promote socially and environmentally sustainable human settlements development and the achievement of adequate shelter for all.



UN-HABITAT VISION AND APPROACH

VISION

UN-Habitat promotes the stronger commitment of national and local governments, as well as other relevant stakeholders, to work towards the realization of a world with economically productive, socially inclusive and environmentally sustainable human settlements.

WHAT WE AIM FOR

Well-planned, well-governed and efficient human settlements with adequate infrastructure and universal access to employment, land and basic services such as housing, water, sanitation, energy and transport.

Good cities do not come about by accident. The prerequisites are broad community consensus, long-standing political determination and sound urban planning, which create urban environments that provide wellbeing and security, guarantee the supply of urban services, and promote a compact and diverse structure where innovation, trade and economic prosperity are encouraged and which protects that communal space in which individual rights and opportunities flourish.

For more than 30 years, UN-Habitat has been leading research, policies and projects on urban settlements throughout the world. Our best practices should serve as a model of urban planning and reconstruction and as a measure of the potential in the decades to come — for a well-made city is so difficult to achieve and maintain.

In the developing world the overriding tendencies are for an often dizzying rate of urban population growth. Many cities grow spontaneously and lack capacity for the development of basic services, and have inadequate safeguards for public spaces with significant impacts on traffic and connectivity. There is an emerging pattern of urbanization based on low productivity, in which the informal economy and underemployment flourish, where the average age of the population is 20. Every year millions of people, in an unprecedented population movement, migrate from the countryside, believing that prosperity is to be found in urban settings.

UN-Habitat has focused its efforts on developing cities — as they are most in need of support through urbanization — centred on three fundamental generators of wealth and employment: planning and design, law and economy. UN-Habitat's methodology eschews existing models and theoretical concepts and focuses instead on the direct participation of the communities. Community management is the best way to begin reconstruction following armed conflicts or natural disasters, and for implementing affordable housing projects and basic primary services.

Often, it is not financial constraints that impede the needed transformation of a city, but the impossibility of finding agreement among stakeholders. What counts is building community institutions and mechanisms capable of circumventing the disagreements, misunderstandings and conflicts that get in the way of the kind of urbanization that generates prosperity. No urban transformation is possible without consensus. Over the next 30 years, the urban population of the world will increase by at least 2.5 billion. Investment in cities during this period will exceed the total sum of all expenditure on urbanization over the entire history of humankind.

Policy decisions must take into account the experiences in urban transformation in recent years. The objective is to shape good cities, where inhabitants live together in density and diversity, where the economies of agglomeration are able to generate prosperity and where the public spaces which guarantee equality and justice are respected and inspire respect.

Urbanization, if adequately planned, can be a transformative power providing prosperity, development and well-being to societies. The new vision makes a shift in focus and incorporates three essential urban elements into a new, integrated working methodology: urban legislation, design and finance, as a three-legged strategy in advancing sustainable urbanization.

URBAN LEGISLATION

The emphasis should be on the establishment of a system of rules and regulations that provide a solid and predictable long-term legal framework for urban development. Special attention should be paid to accountability, implementability and the capacity to enforce the legal framework.

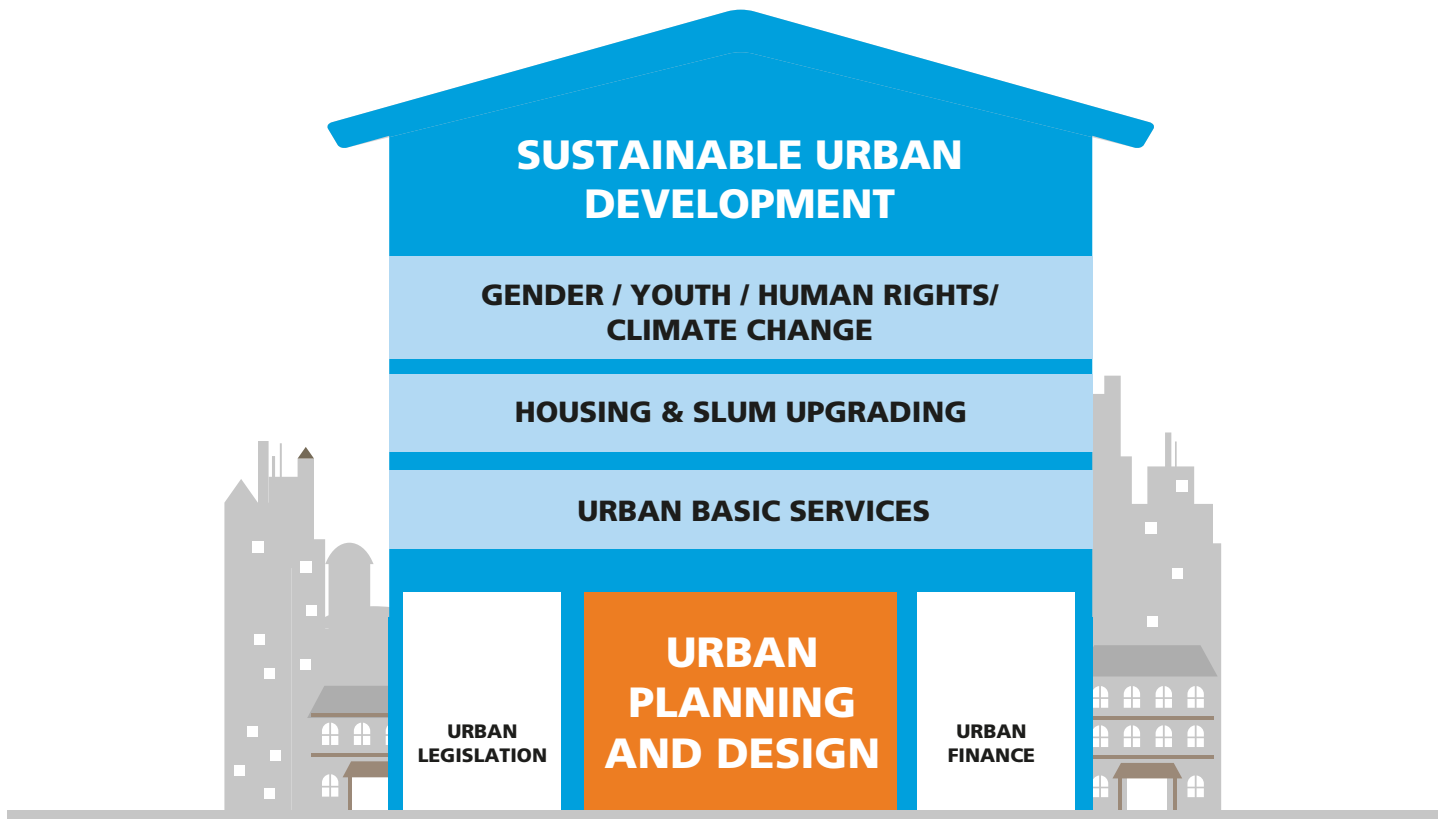
URBAN PLANNING AND DESIGN

Specific attention should be paid to the design of the common space, since it is one of the main contributors to urban value generation, with provision of appropriate street patterns and connectivity and the allocation of open spaces. Equally

important is clarity in the layout of the blocks and plots, including appropriate compactness and mixed economic use of the built area, to reduce mobility needs and service delivery costs per capita. Finally, the design should strengthen the city's social mix and interaction and culture.

URBAN FINANCE

The successful implementation of an urban plan depends on its sound financial basis, including the ability of initial public investments to generate economic and financial benefits and to cover the running costs. There should be a realistic income plan and expenditure provision.



The three components should be balanced to ensure positive and achievable urban outcomes that should lead to increased cross-sectoral synergies, delivery-focused partnerships and streamlined and effective procedures.

URBAN PLANNING AND DESIGN AT UN-HABITAT

We support city, regional and national authorities to implement policies, plans and designs through a participatory process including all different actors, such as civil society and poor people, for more compact, better integrated and connected cities that foster equitable sustainable urban development and are resilient to climate change.

Many cities are currently facing serious challenges of ineffective development control systems, informal and often chaotic peri-urban expansion, a proliferation of informal housing and livelihood activities, poor connectivity, traffic congestion and energy inefficiency, among others. Cities are increasingly facing environmental challenges, including how to curb rising greenhouse gas emissions and the increasing impacts of anthropogenic climate change.

To address these challenges, UN-Habitat will provide city and national Governments with a set of tested approaches, guidelines, and tools to support the management of growth and improved sustainability, efficiency and equity of cities through planning and design at different scales — the slum and neighbourhood, city, regional, national and supra-national scales. This will be achieved through: (a) improved policies and legislation regarding urban planning and sustainability,

based on the principle of subsidiarity; (b) increased capacities of institutions and stakeholders to undertake and effectively implement, in participatory and inclusive ways, urban planning processes at the most appropriate and adequate scale; and (c) new urban planning and design initiatives in selected cities.

UN-Habitat will assist making urban planning and design a more effective tool for governments and local authorities to achieve sustainable urban development.

The overall approach will focus on the creation of a spatial structure in cities and larger territories to facilitate sustainable urbanization. Special attention will be paid to promoting, within the context of decentralization and multilevel governance, a number of critical principles, such as optimizing the population and economic density of urban settlements, mixed land-use, diversity and better connectivity in order to take advantage of agglomeration economies and to minimize mobility demand. In particular, the new approach will emphasize: the need to plan in advance of urban population growth; the need to plan at the scale of the challenges; the need to plan in phases; and the need to plan for job creation, while respecting locally and regionally defined urban planning and design traditions.



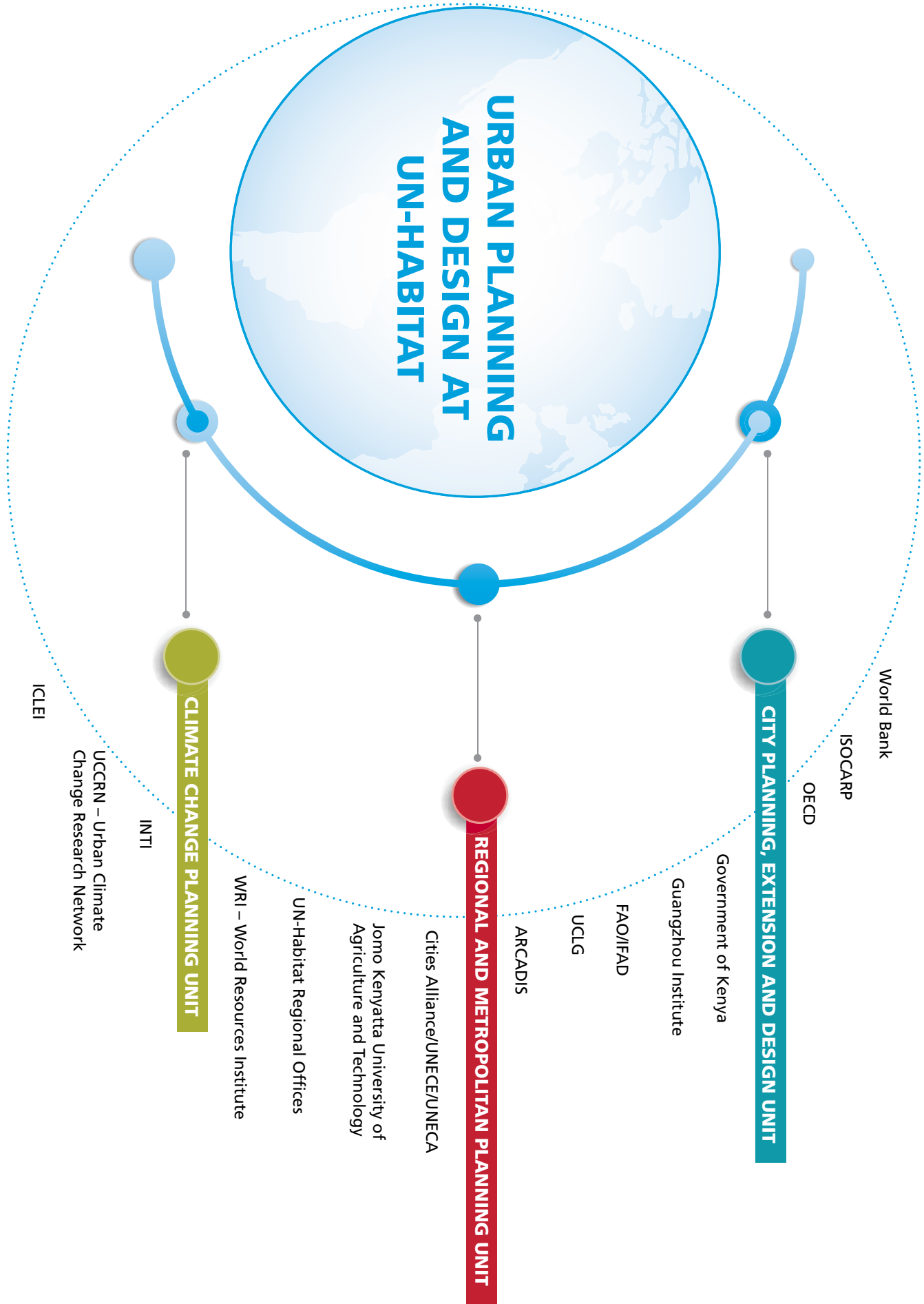
...To support the management of growth and improved sustainability, efficiency and equity of cities through planning and design at different scales...

URBAN PLANNING AND DESIGN PROJECTS WORLDWIDE



- Public Space Programme
- Urban Planning Lab
- Climate Change
- Guidelines on Urban and Territorial Planning
- Pan American Network for Metropolitan Areas

Selection of Urban Planning and Design Projects Worldwide



COUNTRY	KEY WORDS/PROJECT
Kenya	Planned City Extension Urban Planning Studios
Rwanda	National urban Policy Planned City Extensions
Uganda	Kampala Flood Management
Burkina Faso	Urban Agriculture
South Africa	Urban LEDS
Nepal	Urban Agriculture
Sri Lanka	Urban Agriculture
India	Urban LEDS
Indonesia	Urban LEDS
PR China	Planned City Extension
Philippines	Public Space
Saudi Arabia	National Spatial Strategy
Brazil	Urban LEDS
Colombia	Urban Planning Lab

'CITY' INITIATIVES LAUNCHED AT UN CLIMATE SUMMIT

CITIES AND CLIMATE CHANGE INITIATIVE (CCCI)

GLOBAL INITIATIVE

PROJECT STATUS: In Progress | DURATION: 2014 - 2015 and beyond

CLIENT/PARTNER: UN Secretariat / Secretary General's Office/ Various other partner organizations



City action announcements at UN Climate Summit © UN-Habitat

CONTEXT

The Climate Summit was hosted by UN Secretary-General Ban Ki-moon on 23 September 2014 in New York City. It sought to catalyze action to reduce emission and strengthen climate resilience, as well as mobilize political will for a strong and global legal agreement at the 21st Conference of Parties (COP-21) to the UN Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC) in 2015. It was a unique opportunity for leaders to champion an ambitious vision, anchored in action that will enable a meaningful global agreement.

The Summit was intended to accelerate progress in key areas that can significantly reduce emissions and strengthen resilience such as agriculture, cities, energy, financing, forests, pollutants, resilience and transportation.

At the request of UN Secretary-General, the UN-Habitat Executive Director Dr. Clos, together with the UN Special Envoy on Cities and Climate Change, led the cities' thematic area. In preparation of the

Climate Summit, from January to August 2014 UN-Habitat held a series of virtual and in-person meetings with partners and helped to develop Action Statements and plans. At the Summit UN-Habitat launched several multi-partner 'city' initiatives with partners, namely the Compact of Mayors, Cities Climate Finance Leadership Alliance, Urban Electric Mobility Initiative and Resilient Cities Acceleration Initiative.

PROCESS AND SOLUTIONS

The Compact of Mayors is an agreement first by city networks, and then by the representatives of individual cities, to demonstrate the collective impact of local climate action through consistent and transparent public reporting of greenhouse gas emissions targets, plans and data. UN-Habitat serves on the Management Committee of the Compact with representatives of UCLG, C40 and ICLEI, the UN Secretary-General's Office and the UN Special Envoy for Cities and Climate Change.



The City Policy Room © UN-Habitat

The Cities Climate Finance Leadership Alliance is a strong partnership between UN-Habitat and public financial and private investors, development agencies and NGOs to catalyze and accelerate capital flows to cities to maximize investment on low-carbon and climate-resilient infrastructure in urban areas. The Alliance is structured through working groups including Research and Knowledge Management; Policy and Advocacy; Good Practice and Barriers — to showcase action on the ground — and Fundraising; Member Outreach and Partnerships. Its success will be measured by its ability to stimulate the flow of investment in climate-related infrastructure projects in cities.

The Urban Electric Mobility Initiative seeks to promote the widespread adoption of electric vehicles in cities to reduce emissions from transport and air pollution and limit the increase in global mean temperature to 2°C.

The Resilient Cities Acceleration Initiative seeks to accelerate the design and implementation of integrated strategies to strengthen urban systems.

RESULTS AND IMPACT

At present (Oct 2015) the initiatives are well advanced towards long term sustainability in terms of structure and funding with some early results expected by COP-21 in December 2015.

For the **Compact of Mayors**, 500 cities (out of the target of 1,000) have committed to increased action on reducing emissions

and building climate resilience, and several others have already announced their full compliance.

For the **Cities Climate Finance Leadership Alliance**, the COP-21 target is to release an inaugural ‘State of the Cities Climate Finance Report’ and six case studies of innovative finance for low carbon or climate resilient urban development. This is expected to lead to at least one financial institution announcing that it intends to replicate one of those models.

The Urban Electric Mobility Initiative strives to increase the global market share of electric vehicles in cities to reach at least 30 per cent of vehicles sales by 2030.

The Resilient Cities Acceleration Initiative aims to double the number of cities and partners in support of city resilience building by the end of 2015; to assist 500 local governments to develop resilience action plans and to generate US\$2 billion of in-kind and direct support for cities’ action plans by 2020.

...To accelerate progress in key areas that can significantly contribute to reducing emissions and strengthening resilience, such as agriculture, cities, energy, financing, forests, pollutants, resilience and transportation

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INTEGRATED FLOOD MANAGEMENT IN KAMPALA

CITIES AND CLIMATE CHANGE INITIATIVE (CCCI)

COUNTRY: Uganda

CITY: Kampala

PROJECT STATUS: Completed | **DURATION:** January 2012 – December 2013

CLIENT/PARTNER: University of Twente; Makerere University; Kampala Capital City Authority; National Slum Dwellers Federation; Buganda Land Board; Office of the Prime Minister



A flooded street in Kalerwe, Kampala © UN-Habitat

CONTEXT

Flooding is an urgent environmental concern in Kampala as much of the city is built on former wetlands. Due to climate change the region's rainfall patterns are changing and flooding is occurring more frequently, a situation that is forecasted to worsen. A large percentage of the city's low-income residents live in these flood-prone areas. Previous flood management efforts in Kampala focused on a traditional sectorial engineering solution: the development and implementation of storm-water drainage for the city's major water catchment areas. Frequent and worsening flooding led the Kampala Capital City Authority (KCCA) to review and evaluate the master plan and develop and propose a coherent solution addressing flooding, as part of a response to climate change under the UN-Habitat Cities and Climate Change Initiative.

PROCESS AND SOLUTIONS

The Project on Integrated Flood-Risk Management (IFM) in Kampala was intended to show how flood risk can be addressed in an integrated, multi-dimensional and participatory way. The objectives were to carry out a comprehensive, city-wide assessment of the flooding risks based on the principles of integrated flood management; to undertake a more detailed spatial flood risk

...It is important that Kampala Capital City Authority also engages neighbouring local authorities and other relevant bodies to establish strategies and actions that will adopt strategic and innovative sustainable storm water management practices within the greater Kampala water catchment area

assessment in a representative vulnerable neighbourhood (Bwaise slum area), leading to mainstreaming improved and integrated flood management into Kampala Capital City Authorities' practices and operations.

A combination of catchment management and engineering solutions that is particular to IFM is the utilization of Sustainable Drainage Systems (SuDS) to prevent runoff through flood retention upstream. The success of such measures depends to a large extent on the level of support and maintenance from public bodies and civil society actors.

RESULTS AND IMPACT

The main output was an Action Plan for Integrated Flood Risk Management for Kampala, which proposed four concrete action areas that address the major strategic responses to flood risk in Kampala. These action areas are:

- Reducing flooding by using a combination of improved drainage maintenance and solid waste management practices along draining systems together with SuDS measures that together reduce the extent, depth and duration of future floods.
- Mitigating the effects of flooding, and combining measures to improve sewerage disposal to reduce the health risks associated with faecal waste dispersal, and enhancing the data and information services needed to plan and manage development in flood-prone areas.
- Reducing susceptibility to flooding through legal, planning and information awareness measures that aim to reduce the number of structures and people exposed to flooding and incorporating public awareness campaigns and a strict enforcement regime.
- Preserving as a natural resource the flood plains by legally defining and protecting the remaining natural flood plains in Kampala. A clear and enforceable boundary definition of flood plains, including hazard zonation, is important.

It is important that KCCA engages neighbouring local authorities and other relevant bodies to adopt strategic and innovative sustainable storm water management practices. This metropolitan approach will enable KCCA to embark on sustainable integrated flood management.

Officials have used these recommendations in their plans and actions. In late 2014, KCCA secured funds and prepared the Terms of Reference for a major consultancy to update the 2003 Kampala Drainage Master Plan in a manner that reflects approaches advocated by the project. KCCA is in the process of formulating and updating its storm water management policy in support of the proper implementation of the drainage master plan.



Schoolchild collecting rainwater data, Kampala © UN-Habitat

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UN HABITAT
FOR A BETTER URBAN FUTURE

INTEGRATING URBAN AGRICULTURE INTO CITY-LEVEL CLIMATE CHANGE STRATEGIES

URBAN AND PERI-URBAN AGRICULTURE AND FORESTRY

COUNTRIES: Burkina Faso; Nepal; Sri Lanka

CITIES: Bobo Dioulasso; Kathmandu; Kesbewa

PROJECT STATUS: completed | **DURATION:** 2012 - 2014

PROJECT PARTNERS: International Network of Resource Centres on Urban Agriculture and Food Security (RUAF) Foundation (coordination, the Netherlands); Ministry of Western Province (Sri Lanka); Janathakshan (Sri Lanka); University of Moratuwa and the University of Colombo (Sri Lanka); The International Water Management Institute (Sri Lanka); Kathmandu Metropolitan City (KMC, Nepal); Environment and Public Health Organisation (ENPHO, Nepal); The Institute for Social and Environmental Transition (ISET, Nepal); Municipality of Bobo Dioulasso (Burkina Faso); and l'Institut d'Application et de Vulgarisation en Science (IAVS, Burkina Faso).



Urban Agriculture, Bobo Dioulasso, Burkina Faso © Marielle Dubbeling

CONTEXT

Urban and peri-urban agriculture and forestry (UPAF) provide an opportunity to reduce greenhouse gas emissions while also enhancing adaptation and resilience efforts with the additional benefits of increased food security.

With support from the Government of Norway and in collaboration with RUAF, UN-Habitat Cities and Climate Change Initiative (CCCI) carried out pilot projects in Bobo Dioulasso, Burkina Faso; Kathmandu in Nepal and Kesbewa, Sri Lanka.

PROCESS AND SOLUTIONS

The activities in Bobo Dioulasso involved the preservation and protection of the border zones between the city and its forests in addition to preserving and redesigning the city's Trames Vertes (open urban lots used for agroforestry activities) as areas with multi-functional and productive land uses. In Kathmandu, CCCI promoted

productive rooftops, coupled with harvesting rainwater, recycling organic household waste and using climate-smart production technologies. The Kesbewa activities involved the productive rehabilitation of low-lying flood zones and wetlands to create a buffer zone and the establishment of 150 home garden units in village clusters.

The activities aimed to build city resilience by enhancing the supply of locally-produced food, reducing dependency on food imports, improving urban food security, and generating income through job creation. Additionally, they sought to enhance the collaboration between local governments and stakeholders involved in horticulture, livestock, agro-forestry, and aquaculture.

Work began with a review and analysis of UPAF existing experiences, land use, policy frameworks, urban food flows and local climate change vulnerability in the three cities. There was an assessment and

the design of different replicable models of UPAF which have a high potential for climate change adaptation and mitigation.

Key partners were trained in urban agriculture and climate change, in project planning, research, policy influencing and formulation, project design and impact monitoring. The three cities implemented demonstration projects to showcase replicable UPAF models and facilitate learning from practice.

The project supported policy formulation and uptake, dissemination of project results and monitored the contributions of UPAF to climate change adaptation and mitigation and developmental co-benefits.



Rooftop gardening, Kathmandu, Nepal © Marielle Dubbeling

RESULTS AND IMPACT

There has been improvement in local project partners' capacity in design, implementation and monitoring of UPAF projects in the context of climate change mitigation and adaptation programmes.

Additional results by city are as follows:

In Bobo Dioulasso:

- Three policy texts on the management and use of the Trames Vertes have been developed and adopted by the Environmental Commission of the Commune de Bobo Dioulasso
- Participating households are expected to save, on average, the equivalent of 6 per cent of their monthly expenditures.

In Kathmandu:

- In 2014, KMC signed an agreement with the Ministry of Federal Affairs and Local Development to ensure that by the end of 2016 at least 20 per cent of all city households produce vegetables from their rooftops
- More than 250 households have been trained in rooftop gardening, and USD30,000 was allocated by the city in the 2014 municipal budget for the expansion of the programme
- A draft rooftop garden policy has been formulated and put forward for formal approval.

In Keskewa:

- During the October-January sowing season in 2014, 43 acres of paddy field located in flood risk zones were put into cultivation
- The new UPAF model for low-lying flood zones and paddy lands has been taken up in recent circulars under the National Agrarian Policy
- The draft Keskewa Urban Development Plan now seeks to integrate UPAF in its environmental protection zones
- The Western Province has taken initial steps to develop a Provincial Climate Change Action Plan, featuring urban and peri-urban agriculture
- An initial survey shows that, on average, the households practicing intensive home gardening are able to sell 53 per cent more produce than they were before training.

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PROMOTING LOW EMISSION URBAN DEVELOPMENT STRATEGIES IN EMERGING ECONOMIES (URBAN LEDS)

CLIMATE CHANGE MITIGATION PROJECT

COUNTRIES: Brazil, Indonesia, India, South Africa

CITIES: Recife, Fortaleza, Belo Horizonte, Betim, Curitiba, Rio de Janeiro, Porto Alegre, Sorocaba; Balikpapan, Bogor, Bontang, Kabupaten Bogor, Tangerang Selatan, Tarakan; Rajkot, Thane, Coimbatore, Nagpur, Pimpri- Chinchwad, Gwalior, Panaji, Shimia; KwaDukuza Municipality, Steve Tshwete Municipality, Mogale City Local Municipality, Saldanha Bay Municipality, uMhlathuze Local Municipality, Nelson Mandela Bay Municipality, Sol Plaatje Municipality

PROJECT STATUS: In Progress | **DURATION:** March 2012 - August 2015

PROJECT PARTNERS: The Urban-LEDS project is funded by the European Commission, and implemented by UN-Habitat and ICLEI



CONTEXT

The Urban-LEDS project has been run by UN-Habitat and ICLEI in Brazil, Indonesia, India and South Africa to help the transition to low-emission urban development by offering selected local governments a comprehensive methodological framework to integrate low-carbon strategies into all sectors of urban planning and development.

The main project outputs and benefits to project cities are stakeholder identification and engagement plans, GHG inventory, identifying development needs and opportunities, finding solutions for low emissions development (LED) at sectorial and cross-sectorial level, assessing alternative low emissions development solutions, identification of financing models and opportunities and integration of local action with NAMAs and other national processes.

In Brazil, a voluntary commitment adopted in 2009 aims at reducing emissions by between 36 per cent and 39 per cent below the business-as-usual scenario by 2020. Aligned to this, is Brazil's commitment to cut deforestation by 80 per cent from historic levels by 2020. The Federal Government has defined sectoral mitigation plans and many of them are relevant to cities, where emissions are increasing. The project is supporting vertical integration between different levels of government in addressing climate change and to ensure continued local engagement and coordinated approaches for planning, implementation and reporting.

PROCESS AND SOLUTIONS

UN-Habitat and ICLEI are providing the participant cities with a comprehensive and effective methodology for institutionalizing low-emission development, offer tools and guidance on creating political processes, compiling a greenhouse gas inventory, setting targets and key performance indicators, identifying LEDS priorities, reviewing relevant contexts, building internal capacity and engaging with stakeholders.

In **Recife** and **Fortaleza**, the project is supporting model and satellite cities' implementation process through tailor-made training to local governments. This includes: access to GreenClimateCities Methodology; GHGs emissions quantification and monitoring software (HEAT+); global reporting platform (carbonn Cities Climate Registry); access to Urban LEDS Pool of Experts and Solutions Gateway for guidance on LED options; and support in integration of local action in the global climate change regime and establishing processes for appropriate verification (MRV).



Recife, Brazil © Diegonvs

RESULTS AND IMPACT

Recife has developed a Municipal Policy on Climate Change and Sustainability to guide actions on climate change mitigation and adaptation. A future LED Strategy will include the following actions, some of which already have been approved by City Council and thus represent early results: a recently-adopted code and certification for sustainable construction; the Municipal Integrated Waste Management Plan (collection of electronic waste, implementation of waste separation systems); the Public LED Lighting and Biofuel for the Municipal Fleet Project (in 2015 piloting in the historical centre is planned to extend to public spaces and buildings with the target of saving 50-70 per cent in energy consumption).

In Recife afforestation is a the priority of the urban and environmental development policy and 6,716 trees will be planted in eight neighbourhoods. Recife will start a domestic composting programme in 2015, as well as a programme for using boats to transport passengers. Recife will also be the first city in Brazil, in partnership with the State Government, to have an electric car-sharing scheme. The proposed creation of bus corridors and bike lanes will improve passenger transport flow in Recife. Some of the implementation support comes from co-funding mobilized by UN-Habitat, using the expertise of a certified International Society of City and Regional Planners (ISOCARP) urban planner supervised by UN-Habitat.

Fortaleza intends to become an eco-efficient and resilient city by balancing economic growth and environmental conservation. In addition, the city's low carbon vision is currently being outlined, planned for finalization in early 2015. The main priority sectors for Low Emissions Urban Development are waste, mobility, urban planning, and spatial development, street lighting and renewable energy.

A future Urban LEDS strategy will likely include the following actions: Fortaleza Afforestation Plan, established to increase tree cover in the municipality, aiming at neutralizing CO₂ emissions and while reducing atmospheric pollution; the Minha Casa, Minha Vida (My home, my life) programme includes a new element that involves installing solar systems in homes for water heating (solar thermal) and electricity; a Municipal Integrated Waste Management Plan developed by the local government for dealing with waste management problems; Fortaleza's first GHG inventory for a better understanding of where and how emissions can be decreased and an efficient building pilot project to be launched, with 13 schools being made more energy efficient.

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KISUMU LAKEFRONT DEVELOPMENT PLAN

PLANNED CITY EXTENSION

COUNTRY: Kenya

CITY: Kisumu

PROJECT STATUS: Conceptual phase | **DURATION:** June 2013 - March 2015

CLIENT/PARTNER: City and County of Kisumu, Weitz Center



Kisumu City © UN-Habitat

CONTEXT

The lakefront area presents a large urban development opportunity for the City of Kisumu. The new Kisumu Integrated Strategic Urban Development Plan (ISUD) includes the area as one of the Plan's Special Planning Areas (SPA1), recognizing the opportunities and the need for a new and dynamic project that could convert the area into a high quality mixed-use neighbourhood.

As part of the broader ISUD planning framework, the Kisumu Lakefront Project Concept is a logical step in the implementation of the strategic plan for the City of Kisumu. By promoting mixed-use the Concept Plan seeks to

- improve the spatial, economic, social and cultural connections between the city and the lake and

- extend the 'best dimensions' of the current city centre (based on the current street grid pattern) with the new public and private facilities proposed through the Lakefront redevelopment project.

The old railway area forms a barrier between the historic city centre (actual downtown) and the lake. Its historical functions as a transport cluster with industrial uses at its borders, ultimately separated the area from the rest of the city's activities. The present decrease of transport (rail and port) activities in the area, and the parallel change in county-level transport objectives and strategies for the city, is opening new possibilities for the area.



Kisumu Lakefront Project Concept

- Mixed-use
- Lakeside Park
- Commercial

PROCESS AND SOLUTIONS

The Concept Plan is based on UN-Habitat’s ‘three-legged approach’ that emphasizes design, legislation and finance as key components in planning for urban development. In addition to the lakefront concept design, the project addresses the key legal implications of how to manage public and private land and the possible financial development strategies that should be considered.

The general layout of the Plan will extend the existing city centre roads to the lakefront area and will be based on the existing city grid, maintaining and extending its geometries and axes. The old train station building, which will be maintained as a historical site, will be preserved to contain new central uses and the new neighbourhood will be based on mixed use.

The layout maintains an important public open space area along the lakeshore, a new park for leisure, restaurants and a marina with a new passenger port. In addition, a new parkway bordering the existing lakeshore park will support the north-south main vehicular connection and complete the inner city ring system.

RESULTS AND IMPACT

The Concept Plan consolidates various UN-Habitat activities in the city that started in 2012 with a Rapid Planning Studio. The Concept plan was presented to the City and County of Kisumu through a multi-stakeholder workshop in March 2014.

The next step is the translation of the Concept Plan vision into a legal Advisory Plan; this awaits sufficient funding. Meanwhile, the City and County of Kisumu are recruiting a Project Manager to lead the Lakefront Development Management Team, incorporating all the main stakeholders through the next stages of the project.

The planned city extension will offer mixed-use plots, with various possible densities and with continuous green spaces connecting the existing cbd and the newly planned city extension with the lakeside park

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SUPPORT TO SUSTAINABLE URBAN SECTOR DEVELOPMENT IN KENYA – URBAN PLANNING STUDIOS COMPONENT

CAPACITY BUILDING FOR URBAN PLANNING IN KENYAN COUNTIES

COUNTRY: Kenya

CITIES: Eldoret, Embu, Kericho, Kitui, Machakos, Malindi, Mombasa, Naivasha, Nakuru, Nyeri , Thika

PROJECT STATUS: In progress | **DURATION:** May 2014 - June 2015

CLIENT/PARTNERS: Government of Kenya, 8 County governments and 12 towns.



CONTEXT

Kenya is a rapidly-urbanizing country which has recently created a devolved system of governance. The role of urban planning is recognized in the new constitution and the national government is supporting county governments to undertake planning exercises for urban centres through the Kenya Municipal Programme (KMP) which is supported by the World Bank and SIDA. The KMP which aims to build institutional capacity and citywide infrastructure at the county level has four components: Institutional Support; Participatory Urban Planning; Infrastructure investment; and Monitoring and Evaluation.

UN-Habitat is supporting the KMP in the delivery of capacity and directing the planning process in 12 towns, clustered in five groups: Cluster I (Mombasa), Cluster II (Kitui and Malindi), Cluster III (Thika, Machakos and Embu) and Cluster IV (Naivasha, Nakuru and Nyeri).

The objective of UN-Habitat's support is to equip county leaders and practitioners with the understanding and the capacity to guide the planning process.

PROCESS AND SOLUTIONS

The project runs in parallel with and is synchronized with a planning exercise conducted by a team of consultants hired by the KMP. The project process includes:

1. Identification of needs
2. Development of an adequate technical support programme including training for county planners and political leaders as well as community leaders and reviewing the planning consultants' work and coaching the county planning teams

3. Documentation and development of tools to consolidate the discussion and approach

The project uses different tools to achieve its objectives:

- Conceptual training. This is largely based on UN-Habitat's Urban Planning for City Leaders guide
- Practical training through rapid planning studios which address specific planning issues at town level
- Sessions to review and comment on consultants' outputs such as inception reports, assessment reports and plan proposals.

In each participating town, a series of three workshops is held:

1. **A one-day Assembly Learning Session for political leaders — the members of the county assembly — and a one-day Learning Session for County Government executives** to deliberate on the importance and necessity of formulating appropriate planning instruments
2. **A two-day Rapid Planning Studio session for the technical staff (county planners)** to enhance their hands-on skills and the application of various urban planning tools and approaches, particularly planning for streets, public spaces and mixed-use developments, the application of urban legislation and leveraging urban planning for local economic development

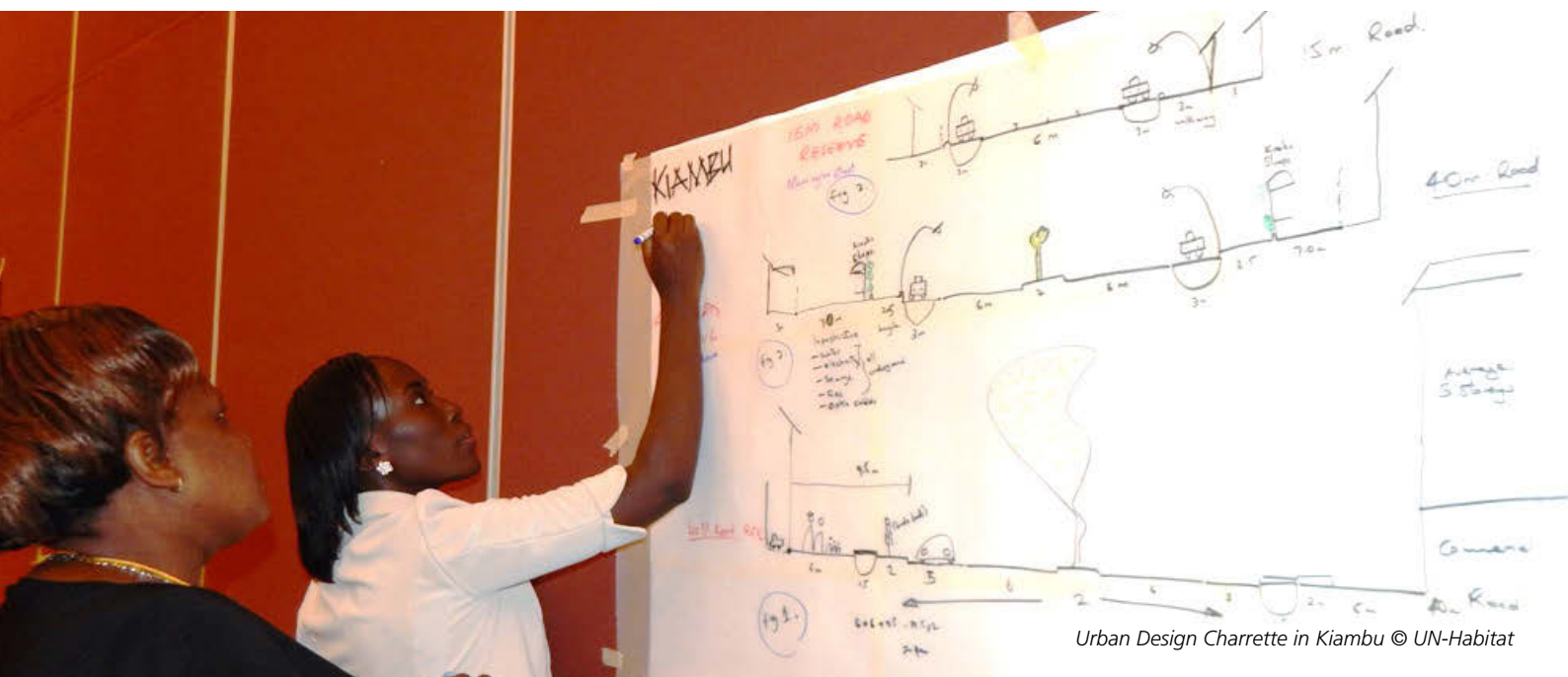
3. **Two-day sessions for community and civil society leaders** to discuss and demystify the planning exercise, identify common areas of interest and concern, familiarise them with planning concepts and objectives and enhance the capacity of these key stakeholders to participate adequately in the planning process

The sessions' content and delivery is focused on an integrated urban planning methodology based on UN-Habitat's three-legged approach which incorporates planning and design; legislation and regulation; and economy and finance.

RESULTS AND IMPACT

UN-Habitat has successfully conducted trainings for nine towns, which fall under Clusters I, II, III, and IV. The different types of training tools engaged different targeted groups to promote awareness about the importance of urban planning to achieve sustainable compact, connected, integrated and socially inclusive urban development. The training sessions also provided an opportunity for policy makers, leaders and technical staff to identify crosscutting issues that need to be addressed. Additional counties have expressed interest to engage with UN-Habitat on a similar urban planning support programme and several Memoranda of Understanding to this effect are under development.

The project builds on existing material, particularly the Urban Planning for City Leaders guide and has developed relevant documentation. It now seeks to establish training tools that can be of relevance for other contexts in Africa and beyond.



URBAN PLANNING AND DESIGN LABORATORY

DEVELOPING CONCEPT PLANS, CITY-WIDE STRATEGIES, CITY IN-FILLS, NEW TOWNS

COUNTRIES: China, Colombia, Egypt, Ghana, Kenya, Mozambique, Philippines, Rwanda, Saudi Arabia, South Africa

CITIES: Wuzhou; Medellin & Santa Marta; Al Alamein & Banha; Ningo-Prampram & Accra; Kisumu; Nampula & Nakala; Silay, Iloilo & Cagayan de Oro; Nyagatare & Rubavu; Riyadh, Dammam, Albahaa & Brieda-Eniza; Johannesburg

PROJECT STATUS: In Progress | **DURATION:** : January 2014 - continuous | **PROJECT PARTNERS:** Respective local and city authorities



Design session in Nyagatare, Rwanda © UN-Habitat

CONTEXT

Faced with unprecedented urban growth, many cities in the developing world struggle with managing the explosive growth of their populations and built-up areas. The Urban Planning and Design Laboratory (Lab) was created as a response to the growing demand from local, regional and national governments for assistance in sustainable urban planning. The Lab translates UN-Habitat planning principles into practice by developing plans and designs that can be implemented locally. It also enhances the implementation of these plans and designs by linking the legal, financial and planning instruments.

With a global reach the Lab has created an international portfolio that allows the comparison of applied planning tools and methodologies between different local conditions. Additionally, the Lab is involved

in reviewing documents at the request of local, regional and national governments, resulting in quick, high-impact responses to legal planning documents that are under development.

PROCESS AND SOLUTIONS

The Lab is a UN-Habitat in-house design studio that offers urban planning and design solutions from concept plans to detailed ones. The Lab has a network of highly skilled planners that work locally and it collaborates with global planning institutes and private partners.

It applies its tools and methodologies in various contexts; it advises on the application of UN-Habitat's Sustainable Urban Development principles; offers a neutral voice and knowledge on how to pitch urban projects to international investment opportunities and the Lab offers various services related to Spatial Analysis, Project Definition

and Project Documents, Urban Planning and Design, Supervision + design and project management, compilation of Case Studies and Best Practices and Planning Document Reviews.

The Planning and Design component of the Lab focuses on City-Wide Strategies, Planned City Extensions, Urban Renewals + Transformation and New Town Development as described below.

City Wide Strategies are an integrated approach to infrastructure development, urban extension, densification and rural/agricultural linkages. They create a strategic framework for decision making and define key projects for the short, medium and long term. By identifying and structuring planned expansion areas that are near to the existing urban fabric and at an adequate scale, Planned City Extensions address the pressure for affordable housing and accessible basic services brought about by a growing urban population.

When Urban Renewal and Transformation Strategies are applied to the existing urban fabric, they help to achieve a structure that minimizes transport and service delivery costs, optimizes the use of land and supports the protection and organization of open spaces. Benefits include street life, economic viability of activities, proximity and walkability. New Town Development is particularly relevant when balancing population distribution and expanding the national system of cities is critical, especially in urbanizing countries. Its adoption, however, needs to be evaluated carefully to build on real development dynamics.

RESULTS AND IMPACT

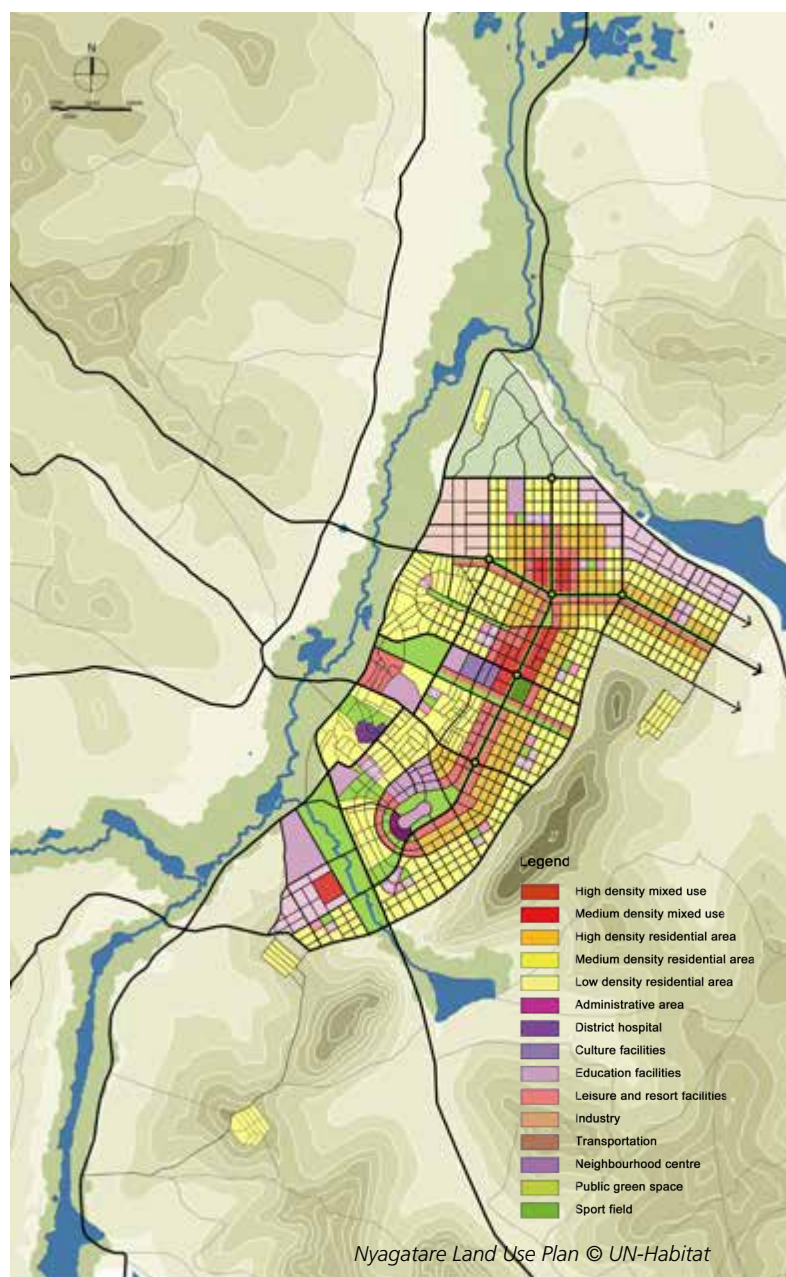
In its first year of operation, the Lab successfully supported urban planning in various cities around the globe. The Lab is currently assisting the development of the Johannesburg's Spatial Development Framework 2040, due for finalization in 2015. The Lab has also prepared concept plans for planned city extensions for Silay, Iloilo and Cagayan de Oro in the Philippines, Santa Marta (Colombia), Kisumu (Kenya), Ningo-Prampram (Ghana) and Nyagatare and Rubavu (Rwanda).

The city of Johannesburg's Spatial Development Framework 2040 will influence the future development of the city, focusing on achieving a more compact, connected and integrated city through spatial connection, transportation and provision of public space and services.

In 2014 the Lab, in conjunction with the planning department of Medellin (Colombia), developed a concept plan for urban renewal in the neighbourhood of La Candelaria. Once implemented, the poor

living conditions of 3,500 people will be improved by better-quality public and commercial services and the increased density in the neighbourhood including an improved social mix of residents made possible through the provision of middle class apartments.

Working with the city authority and private consultants, the Lab has developed a concept plan for a new town for Al-Alamein New City in Egypt. This 'fourth generation' New Town will be based on new strategies to create a place that can grow in stages and that considers developing housing and jobs as equally important.



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GLOBAL PROGRAMME ON PUBLIC SPACE

IMPROVING PUBLIC SPACE IN URBAN AREAS

COUNTRIES: Argentina, Bangladesh, Burkina Faso, Colombia, Ethiopia, Haiti, India, Kenya, Kosovo, Mexico, Nepal, Nigeria, Peru, Philippines, Rwanda, Solomon Islands, Somalia, South Africa, Vietnam

CITIES: Buenos Aires; Khulna; Ouagadougou; Medellin; Addis Ababa; Les Cayes; Mumbai & Pune; Nairobi; Pristina; Mexico City; Kirtipur; Akure and Lokoja; Lima; 2 cities in the Philippines; Kigali; Honiara; Mogadishu; Johannesburg; Ho Chi Minh City or Hanoi.

PROJECT STATUS: Completed (4) In progress (14) Conceptual phase (4)

DURATION: November 2012 – December 2016

PROJECT PARTNERS: Swedish International Development Co-operation Agency (Sida), Mojang



Lotus Garden, Mumbai before and after ©UN-Habitat

CONTEXT

Prosperous cities must consider the importance of the public realm. Cities that prioritize quality of life for all their citizens experience higher levels of prosperity. Such cities strive towards social equity by providing access to urban commons such as green areas, squares, ample pavements and streets, recreation facilities and other public spaces. Providing public spaces enhances community cohesion and civic identity and supports the levels of urban density required for environmentally and economically sustainable cities. The role of urban planning is to organize public spaces and the role of urban design to encourage their use.

The overall objective of the UN-Habitat led public space programme is to support local governments in creating and promoting socially inclusive, integrated, connected, environmentally sustainable and safe streets and public spaces, especially for the most vulnerable. More specifically the programme promotes public space as an important element for creating sustainable cities, for improving the quality of life

of urban citizens, and as a key message in the global dialogue leading up to Habitat III. The intention of the public space programme is to impact on the development of the whole city, to improve capacity of local institutions and communities and to contribute to long-term change. UN-habitat takes a city-wide approach to public space and supports local government in developing strategies, policies and action plans on public space. In addition, UN-Habitat supports local governments to develop working partnerships with a range of organisations, including multilaterals, civil society, academia and the private sector around the issues of public space.

PROCESS AND SOLUTIONS

The Global Programme on Public Space has 3 main components: supporting local and national governments in developing city-wide strategies/policies and demonstration projects; establishing partnerships on public space at the local, national and international levels; and facilitating advocacy, capacity development, knowledge management and tool development.

Through pilot projects that are developed in partnership with cities, the programme exemplifies the importance of public spaces in achieving social, economic, environmental and other benefits to cities. Community participation workshops using the Minecraft tool facilitate the involvement of the community throughout the planning and designing of public spaces in their neighbourhoods and cities. This gives the community a sense of ownership of the public space that often translates positively in the management, maintenance and protection of the public space by the community. Figure 1 below illustrates the public space process at the city level.



Fig 1. Public Space Process at City level

To promote advocacy for good public spaces in cities and support local governments in developing and maintaining them, the programme also works to consolidate knowledge, good approaches, indicators, tools and methodologies on public space and to make these accessible to local government and other partners. It also engages a broader network of partners and public space practitioners in the global promotion of good practices on public space.

RESULTS AND IMPACT

During 2014, four pilot projects were completed – Jeevanjee Gardens (Nairobi), Dey Pukhu (Kirtipur), Lotus Garden (Mumbai) and Place de la Paix (Les Cayes). A further 14 are in progress or under development – Addis Ababa (Ethiopia), Mogadishu (Somalia), Akure and Lokoja (Nigeria), Lima (Peru), Buenos Aires (Argentina), Medellin (Colombia), Khulna (Bangladesh), Kirtipur (Nepal) phase II, Gautam Nagar (Mumbai) phase II, Honiara (Solomon Islands), Pristina (Kosovo), Pune (India) and La Touterelle (Les Cayes). An additional four pilot projects are in the pipeline - Hanoi (Vietnam), Mexico City (Mexico), and Ouagadougou (Burkina Faso), Johannesburg (South Africa).

Nairobi, Kirtipur, Mumbai, Les Cayes, Mogadishu and Lima have prepared public space designs and plans at the neighbourhood level. Further, Nairobi, Kirtipur and Mogadishu are developing city-wide public space strategies/plans based on UN-Habitat's sustainable planning principles. In Nairobi, the first phase of upgrading Jeevanjee Garden located in the city centre, is complete and includes improving security, making the park more appealing to the public and providing services such as a stage and free WiFi. In Les Cayes, the upgrading and revitalization of Place de la Paix was completed in 2014. It included fixing the broken play equipment, installing and repairing the concrete benches, fixing the open drainage which runs alongside the park, repainting the park walls and pavilion and installing lighting. The revamped park is now a popular spot for young people.

In addition to the pilot projects, community participation public space design trainings have taken place in Mexico City, Les Cayes, Mogadishu, Lokoja and Akure, Kirtipur, Khulna, Honiara, Philippines, and Lima. The programme is also currently finalising the publication: "Global Public Space Toolkit: From Global Principles to Local Policies and Practice", which is under revision and will be published by the end of 2015.

UN-Habitat collaborates with the following partners to promote the public space agenda: Mojang, a key partner, in supporting the participatory public space design process and also the implementation of the actual public space interventions in select sites; the National Planning Institute (INU) in Rome in the development of the Global Charter on Public Space and the publication "Global Public Space Toolkit: From Global Principles to Local Policies and Practice"; UCLG in establishing networks of cities working on public space; and Fundacion Avina in supporting the public space implementation in two cities in Latin America. Other partners include: Project for Public Spaces (PPS), Gehl Architects, White Architects, Ax:son Jonsson Foundation, Yellow Design Foundation, Institute pour la Ville en Movement, Svensk Byggtjanst, FyreUK, Telmex, Foundation of Puerto Rico, League of Cities of the Philippines and Slum Dwellers International (SDI). The programme also collaborates with a multitude of local partners – universities, NGO's, communities, etc. – as well as supporting in-house UN-Habitat Branches, such as Participatory Slum Upgrading Programme, Urban Mobility Unit, Safer Cities Programme, Gender Unit and Youth Unit. Further, partnerships are developing with other UN Agencies, such as WHO and UNESCO.

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CITY EXTENSION IN RUBAVU, RWANDA

PLANNED CITY EXTENSION

COUNTRY: Rwanda

CITY: Rubavu

PROJECT STATUS: In Progress | **DURATION:** June 2014 - June 2016

PROJECT PARTNERS: Rubavu District, Rwanda Housing Authority, Ministry of Infrastructure



Rubavu, Rwanda © UN-Habitat

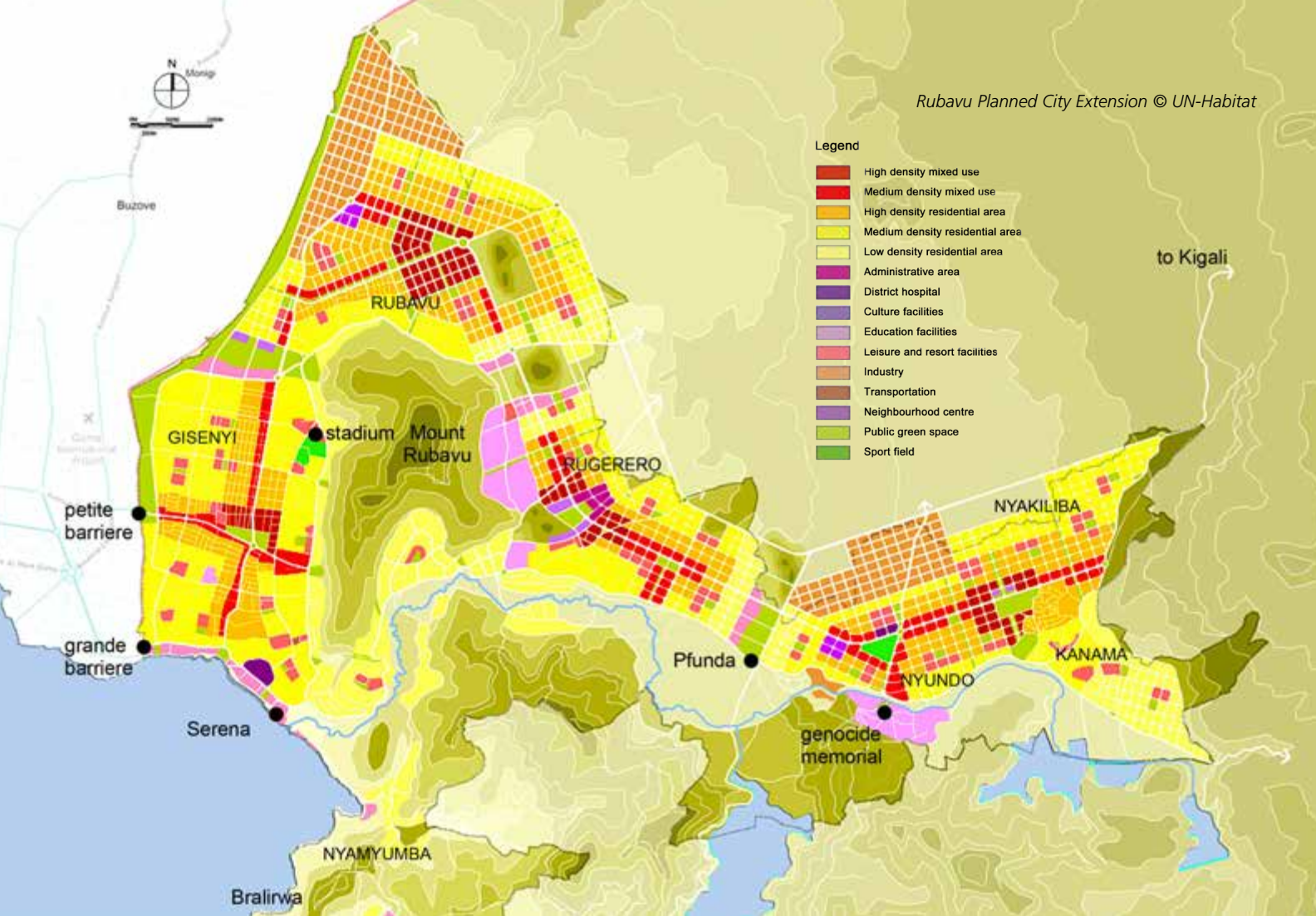
CONTEXT

Rubavu is the largest of the six main intermediate (secondary) cities in Rwanda and covers an area of 45sq km. With a growth rate of 5 per cent it is expected to accommodate rapid population and economic expansion. Located on the border with the Democratic Republic of Congo and adjacent to the city of Goma, the economic relation between the two cities is strong. It is estimated that 25 per cent of the working population in Rubavu work in Goma. Because of its strategic position the city is growing rapidly and the current population of 150,000 is expected to increase fivefold in the next 30 years. This project seeks to improve the existing master plans for the urban area in Rubavu District and offers a Planned City Extension based on UN-Habitat's principles for Sustainable Urban Development.

PROCESS AND SOLUTIONS

Currently, development in Rubavu is focused mainly in the west. An improved plan will take into consideration the other sectors of the city to accommodate growth where it is most suited. A Planned City Extension provides an efficient street network and a large amount of buildable plots to accommodate growth and guarantees connectivity and economic development.

The first phase of the project will run from 2015 to 2025 and will focus on increasing densification and mixed use in the town; 1,543 hectares will need to be developed to accommodate 110,000 additional inhabitants and create 75,000 jobs. This planned growth will improve access to services and facilities, protect fertile lands and



lower the costs of public investment. The process will begin at the level of the urban block by decreasing the size of plots and allowing plot sub-divisions and multiple buildings on a single plot. To support the densification, the existing zoning laws require modification.

RESULTS AND IMPACT

Through the development of the plan, local partners now understand their city and its potential better, and have the vision to upgrade it into a vibrant and compact place. Rubavu is a chain of urban settlements that includes two larger cores. As growth is rapid and the land available limited, it is inevitable that, eventually, the whole area will be built up. Without a well developed plan and a strategy to implement it, fertile land will be destroyed, high risk areas inhabited and the main development will occur in an area that is prone to flooding.

The new plan considers the rapid population and economic growth and provides for a future population of 800,000 with economic and tourist activities as the base for short-term investment. Instead of concentrating all available resources in the existing built-up area, public transport projects will be located in diverse sectors of the city so as to improve access to jobs and reduce travel time. The existing national road will be expanded to develop a well-structured street network and prevent the most populated areas being congested by heavy traffic. The connection between the existing CBD and the main tourist attractions (Lake Kivu and Mount Rubavu) will also be improved.

By developing a standard block size, the land consumption per capita can be reduced. As a first step to this end, the district government has reduced the maximum size of a plot from 600 m² to 280 m².

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CITY-WIDE STRATEGY IN WUZHOU, CHINA

CITY-WIDE STRATEGY

COUNTRY: Peoples Republic Of China

CITY: Wuzhou

PROJECT STATUS: Completed | **DURATION:** April 2014 – November 2014

PROJECT PARTNERS: City of Wuzhou/ Guangzhou Planning Institute



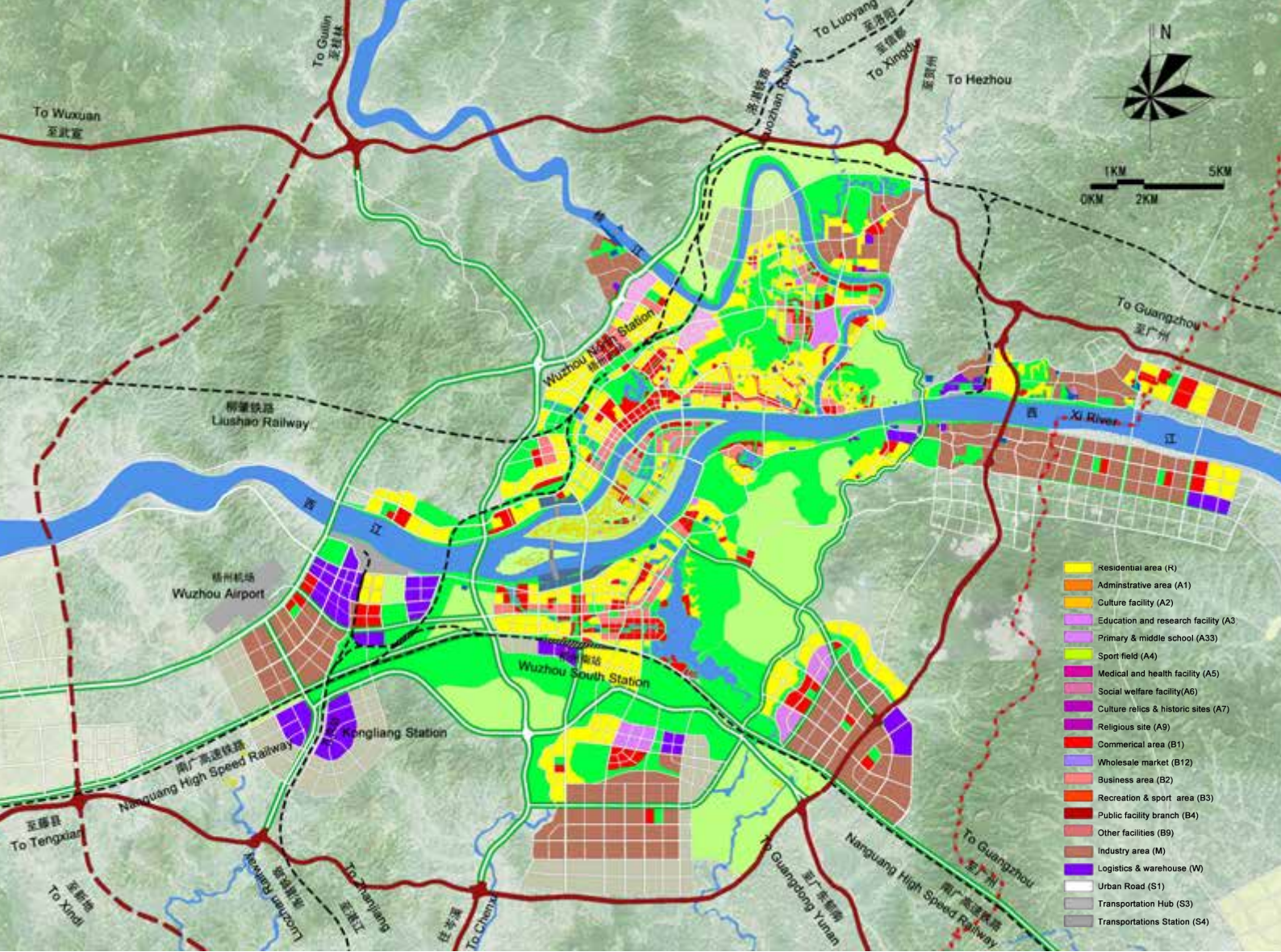
Planning session at Wuzhou © UN-Habitat

CONTEXT

Wuzhou is a city in Eastern Guangxi Province on the banks of the Xi River, a tributary of the Pearl River in China. The district currently has a population of more than 3 million people, with 500,000 inhabitants living and working in the city. A policy to partly shift the industrial complex from the coastal areas of China towards the Midwest gave Wuzhou a new challenge: how to accommodate new industries and a forecasted million new citizens by 2030. UN-Habitat's Urban Planning and Design Lab collaborated with the Guangzhou Planning Institute to rethink and redraw the Wuzhou District Plan to meet sustainable urban development goals.

PROCESS AND SOLUTIONS

The new Wuzhou District Plan is based on the concept of a compact and connected city. The plan reduces industrial areas and clusters them around a southern transport axis that combines road, rail and port logistics in multi-modal hubs. The southbound highway gets separate lanes for pass-through traffic and traffic dedicated to the industrial complexes, while the large industrial areas are separated from the city centre by a park that forms the natural southern border, connects on both sides to the river and offers green space and leisure activities. Three areas in the city core have been selected for densification, all waterfront locations with good connectivity to the



Wuzhou City-Wide Strategy © UN-Habitat

rest of the city. The former planned logistic areas close to the city centre will be replaced by an urban district with a passenger station and a park. A new Bus Rapid Transit (BRT) system connects various parts of the city.

RESULTS AND IMPACT

The new district plan for Wuzhou has been approved by the province government. Prepared by Guangzhou Planning Institute technical staff in collaboration with UN-Habitat's Urban Planning and Design Lab, the plan successfully includes all UN-Habitat principles and proposals on urban compactness and connectivity.

As a result, the new plan clusters larger industries around connected hubs and creates a compact city core with higher density and proximity. This reduces the possible constraints of a fast hyper-industrialization process, concentrating industries in the better-connected southern part of the city and avoiding the creation, as in the former plan, of an industrial circular ring around the city. Underpinned by a BRT system, the plan will allow residential settlements to be located away from industrial pollution and further separated by the new park.

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INTERNATIONAL GUIDELINES ON URBAN AND TERRITORIAL PLANNING

URBAN AND TERRITORIAL PLANNING

GLOBAL

PROJECT STATUS: In progress | **DURATION:** April 2013 and beyond

CLIENT/PARTNER: National Governments, Local Authorities, United Cities and Local Governments (UCLG), International Society of City and Regional Planners (ISOCARP), Research and Academia, Civil Society Organizations and Development Partners.



Medellin, Colombia © Eduardo F

CONTEXT

The principles contained in the International Guidelines on Urban and Territorial Planning (IG-UTP) aim to promote sustainable development of cities and human settlements from a social, economic and environmental perspective.

The main goals of the IG-UTP are to develop a universally-applicable reference framework to guide urban policy reforms; capture universal principles from national and local experience that could support the development of diverse planning approaches adapted to different contexts and scales; complement and link to other international guidelines aimed at fostering sustainable urban development and raise the urban and territorial dimensions of the development agendas of national, regional and local governments.

The IG-UTP complement the International Guidelines on Decentralization and Strengthening of Local Authorities (2007) and the International Guidelines on Access to Basic Services for All (2009), which were adopted by the Governing Council of UN-Habitat and have been implemented in a number of countries.

PROCESS AND SOLUTIONS

In response to the UN-Habitat Governing Council Resolution 24/3 of April 2013, the Executive Director of UN-Habitat established an ad hoc group of experts to advise on the structure, content and wording of the proposed International Guidelines on Urban and Territorial Planning (IG-UTP).

Members of the Group were nominated by national governments, associations of local authorities, associations of professional planners and international institutions, representing experience and practice from Africa, Asia, Europe and America.

The drafting process was structured through three Expert Group Meetings. The first took place in Paris, France, (October 2013) and the second in Medellin, Colombia, (April 2014), in conjunction with the 7th session of the World Urban Forum. The third was in Fukuoka, Japan, (November 2014) and produced the Fukuoka Communiqué, endorsing the outcomes of the process. The Guidelines were approved at the 25th session of the Governing Council of UN-Habitat, in April 2015.

RESULTS AND IMPACT

The Guidelines are expected to provide a global framework for improving policies, plans, designs and implementation processes for

more compact, socially inclusive, better integrated and connected cities and territories that foster sustainable urban development and are resilient to climate change. A compendium of inspiring practices has been developed to illustrate the conditions and benefits of the key principles included in the IG-UTP, while providing relevant facts and figures and concrete evidence of the impacts of sound urban and territorial planning.

UN-Habitat and other development partners have been requested to support countries and cities in using and adapting the guidelines. The IG-UTP are also expected to be a significant tool to highlight the importance of sustainable urbanization in the Post-2015 Development Agenda as well as the Third United Nations Conference on Housing and Sustainable Urban Development (Habitat III), scheduled to take place in 2016.



United Nations Places, Ouagadougou, Burkina Faso
© Wikipedia/Helge Fahmberger

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FUTURE SAUDI CITIES PROGRAMME, NATIONAL SPATIAL STRATEGY PROJECT

SPATIAL PLANNING FRAMEWORKS

COUNTRY: Kingdom of Saudi Arabia (KSA)

CITY: 17 Cities including 4 pilot cities (Riyadh, Dammam, Abha and Brieda-Eniza)

PROJECT STATUS: In progress | **DURATION:** 2014-2017

CLIENT/PARTNER: Ministry of Municipal and Rural Affairs (MoMRA)

Riyadh, Saudi Arabia © Flickr/Yasser Abusen



CONTEXT

Cities in Saudi Arabia have grown too fast for administrative and planning authorities to keep up. The traditional reliance on conventional Master Plans has translated into neither realistic, practical or participatory plans nor effective results. The constant migration toward regional cities will put even greater stress on already limited resources and urban infrastructure, forcing municipalities to implement strategies that create resilient and sustainable cities for the future.

The Kingdom of Saudi Arabia, with the support of UN-Habitat, has embarked on the Future Saudi Arabia Cities Programme (2014-2017) to address these challenges. The programme's main objective is to achieve sustainable urbanization in the country through better-informed and inclusive policies and programmes which include the involvement of women and young people.



PROCESS AND SOLUTIONS

A key part of the Programme is to review and improve the National Spatial Strategy (NSS) that was approved by the Council of Ministers in 2000 and updated in 2005. The main objective of the NSS is balanced development between and within regions, with emphasis on integrating rural and urban areas. It will provide recommendations to inform the prospective Urban Planning Act.

RESULTS AND IMPACT

The renewed NSS is expected to help generate endogenous economic growth and employment while addressing the needs of the most vulnerable, marginalised or underserved groups. This will lead to promoting a balanced pattern of population distribution in national space, ensure efficient utilization of infrastructure and public services already in place, directly support the growth of small and medium cities and diversify the economic base of regions. The NSS project will be a major achievement of the Programme in the lead-up to the first Saudi National Urban Forum to be held in 2016.

UN-Habitat is assisting the central government and local authorities to move towards more strategic and integrated urban and regional planning frameworks with the view to ensuring territorial cohesion and boosting economic competitiveness.

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RAMA: PAN-AMERICAN NETWORK FOR METROPOLITAN AREAS

METROPOLITAN DEVELOPMENT

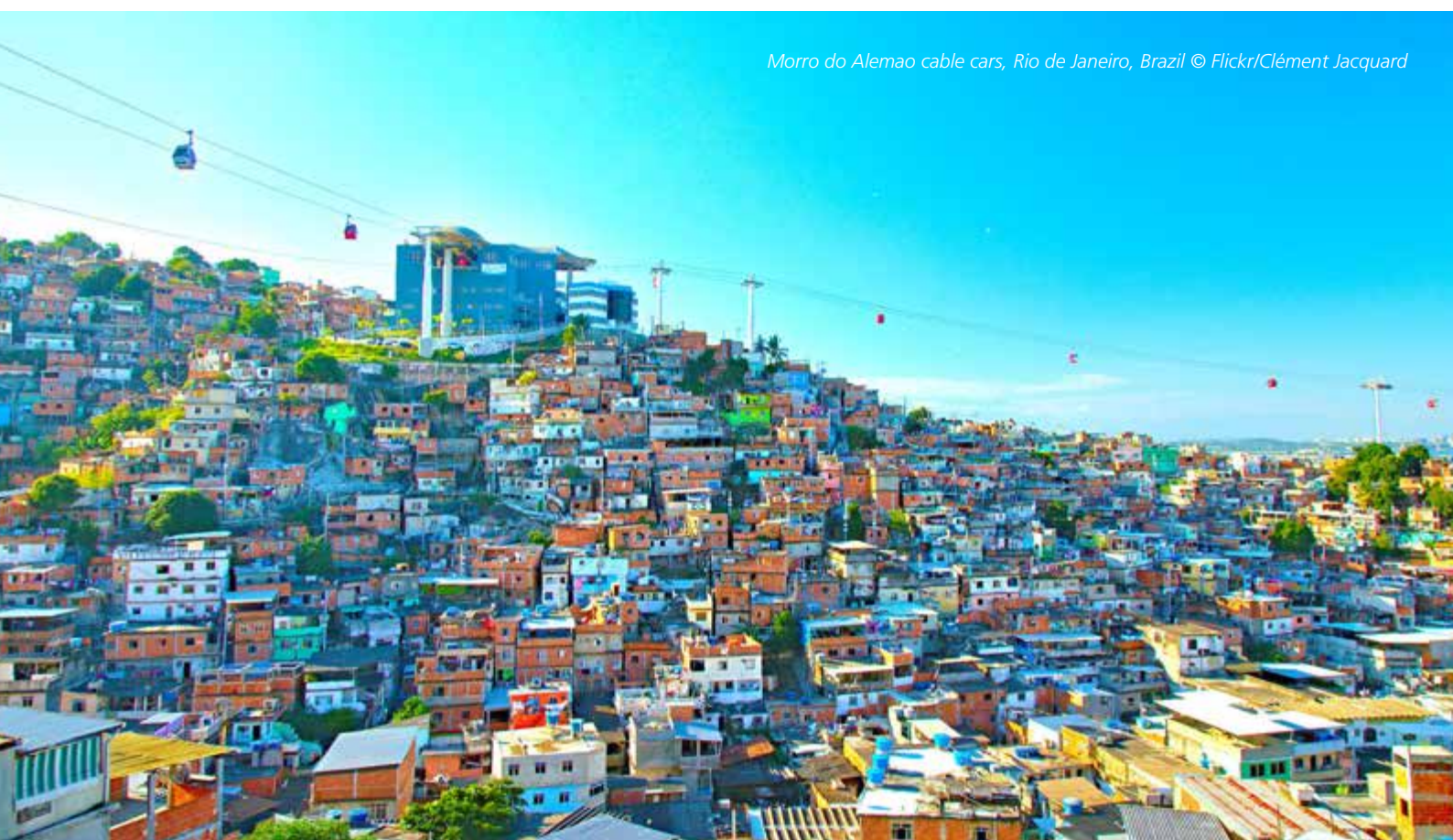
COUNTRIES: The Americas: North America, Latin America and the Caribbean

CITIES: Bucaramanga, Valle de Aburra, Bogota (Colombia), Montreal (Canada), San Salvador (El Salvador), Sao Paulo, Rio de Janeiro (Brazil), Guadalajara (Mexico), Cordoba (Argentina)

PROJECT STATUS: In Progress | **DURATION:** November 2014 and beyond

PROJECT PARTNERS: Communauté Métropolitaine de Montréal (CMM), Area Metropolitana del Valle Aburrá (AMVA), Association of Metropolitan Areas of Colombia, São Paulo Metropolitan Planning Company (Emplasa), Planning Office of the Metropolitan Area of San Salvador (OPAMSS), Instituto Metropolitano de Planeación of Guadalajara

Morro do Alemão cable cars, Rio de Janeiro, Brazil © Flickr/Clément Jacquard



CONTEXT

Metropolitan areas are national engines of economic growth and prosperity in most of the countries in the Americas. In Latin America and the Caribbean between 60 and 70 per cent of GDP is currently generated in urban areas, with 40 cities producing more than 30 per cent of the regional income. Despite this, metropolitan identities and dynamics are often not recognised in national or regional strategies and plans.

The Pan-American Network for Metropolitan Areas (RAMA) was launched in November 2014 to promote cooperation and exchange

on metropolitan issues and strengthen the technical and political dialogue amongst the metropolitan institutions of America. It is a voluntary cooperation network which convenes public metropolitan institutions from North America, Latin America and the Caribbean. UN-Habitat, through its regional office in Rio de Janeiro, will host the Technical Secretariat of RAMA.

The specific objectives of RAMA are to promote cooperation and strengthen capacities of member institutions, share experience and practice, foster political dialogue and collaborate with relevant institutions and development banks.

PROCESS AND SOLUTIONS

The creation of RAMA is a reflection of the growing interest in new forms of metropolitan cooperation in the Pan-American region. Seven metropolitan institutions and UN-Habitat met in November 2014 to formalize the creation of RAMA. RAMA will comprise a General Assembly, an Executive Committee and a Technical Secretariat.

Three focus areas have been identified in the 2015 work plan: planning, governance and finance and three technical meetings have been scheduled for 2015 accordingly.

RAMA aims at advancing the metropolitan agenda in the preparatory process of the Third United Nations Conference on Housing and Sustainable Urban Development (Habitat III).

RESULTS AND IMPACT

RAMA is an inspiring example of cooperation towards Habitat III, which will enable bringing metropolitan issues and regional priorities into the mainstream. Similar initiatives might emerge in other regions which would facilitate cross-fertilization of ideas and global partnerships on metropolitan issues.



Guadalajara, Mexico © Flickr/Carlos Rivera

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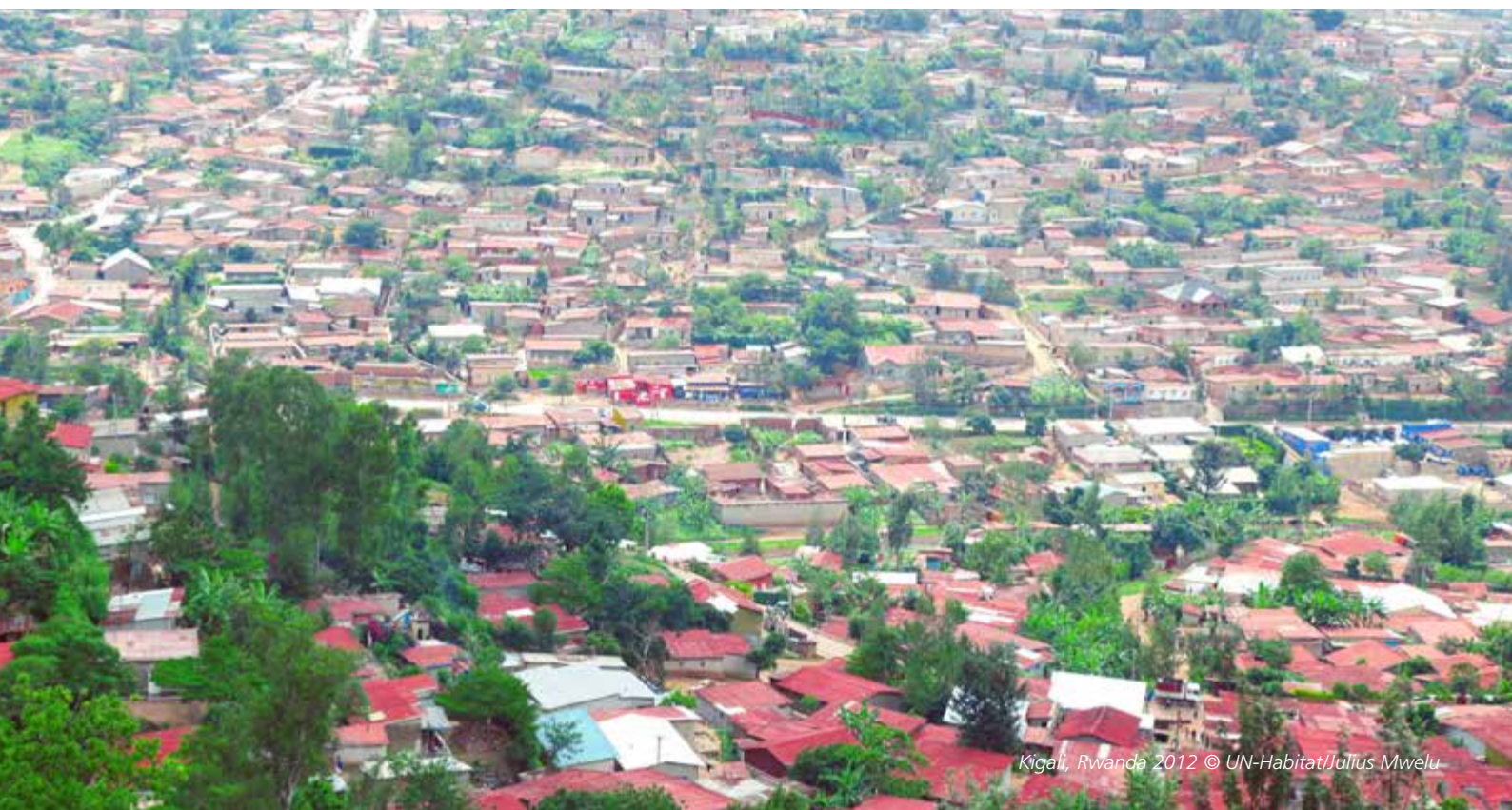
NATIONAL URBANISATION POLICY IN RWANDA

NATIONAL URBANISATION POLICY - Achieving Sustainable Urban Development (ASUD)

COUNTRY: Rwanda

PROJECT STATUS: In progress | **DURATION:** 2013-2015 (Phase 1)

PROJECT PARTNERS: Government of Spain, Ministry of Infrastructure (MININFRA), Rwanda Housing Authority (RHA), Center for GIS (University of Rwanda), All provinces and districts.



Kigali, Rwanda 2012 © UN-Habitat/Julius Mwelu

CONTEXT

Located in the heart of Africa, Rwanda has 25,340 km² of habitable land with an estimated population of 10.5 million in 2012, resulting in an average density of 415 habitants/km². The share of the urban population has increased progressively from 2 per cent in 1960 to 4.6 per cent in 1978 and 16.5 per cent in 2012. The current annual urban growth rate is 4.5 per cent.

The Government of Rwanda aims to increase the rate of urbanisation from 10 per cent in 2000 to 35 per cent by 2020 as ascribed in the country's Vision 2020. The Government is aware that urbanization is key to the sustainable development of Rwanda and that it can trigger economic growth and contribute to improving the quality of life for all. As part of its urban development strategy, the Government of Rwanda (GoR) has identified six secondary cities as 'poles of urban

growth' where significant transformation should take place in the coming years to balance the urban hierarchy.

The Government, with UN-Habitat, has developed a National Urbanisation Policy (NUP) to provide the overarching coordinating framework to address the most pressing issues related to urbanisation.

PROCESS AND SOLUTIONS

The first phase in developing a national urbanisation policy for Rwanda aimed at understanding the context and engaging stakeholders. Seven consultative meetings were held across the country with the involvement of decision makers at national level and other stakeholders. The second phase assessed the state of urbanisation and coordination of urban development in Rwanda.

The Programme is now in the final stages of formulating the National Urban Policy. This process underscores the importance of a policy that provides an institutional framework for urbanisation and for improving the advocacy and enforcement of a coordinated urban development process.

RESULTS AND IMPACT

The National Urbanisation Policy of Rwanda will guide the future development of the national urban system. It will provide a framework for increased and more coordinated private and public investments in urban development and consequent improvement of the cities' productivity, inclusiveness and environmental conditions.

The programme will create a Spatial Development Framework to ensure balanced growth of cities across Rwanda, including the small and intermediate ones, through increased investment and job creation.

It is envisioned that the policy framework will enhance technical and administrative capacities in government, private sector and civil society to ensure a coherent urbanization process.



UN-Habitat's Committee of Permanent Representatives on a visit to Rwanda © UN-Habitat

"UN-Habitat has had an important impact in Rwanda by providing technical assistance and capacity building to develop local urban master plans"

Christian Rwakunda, Permanent Secretary in the Ministry of Infrastructure

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UN-Habitat (RMPU): <http://unhabitat.org/initiatives-programmes/national-urban-policies/>

UN HABITAT
FOR A BETTER URBAN FUTURE

Our aim is to support city, regional and national authorities to implement policies, plans and designs for more compact, better integrated and connected cities that foster equitable sustainable urban development and are resilient to climate change.



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UNITED NATIONS HUMAN SETTLEMENTS PROGRAMME
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