Metadata on SDGs Indicator 11.3.2
Indicator category: Tier II

Goal 11: *Make cities and human settlements inclusive, safe, resilient and sustainable.*

Target 11.3: *By 2030, enhance inclusive and sustainable urbanization and capacity for participatory, integrated and sustainable human settlement planning and management in all countries.*

Indicator 11.3.2: *Proportion of cities with a direct participation structure of civil society in urban planning and management that operates regularly and democratically.*

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1. Definition and method of computations

The development of sustainable human settlements calls for the active engagement of all key stakeholders with particular attention to project/programme beneficiaries and vulnerable groups. Therefore local and national governments should strive to: a) facilitate and protect people's participation and civic engagement through independent civil society organizations that can be from diverse backgrounds - local, national, and international; b) promote civic and human rights education and training programmes to make urban residents aware of their rights and the changing roles of diverse women, men, and young women and men in urban settings; c) remove the barriers that block participation of socially marginalized groups and promote non-discrimination and the full and equal participation of women, young men and women and marginalized groups.

1.1 Definitions

Democratic participation: Structures allow and encourage participation of civil society representing a cross-section of society that allows for equal representation of all members of the community.

Direct participation: Structures allow and encourage civil society accessing and actively engaging in decision-making, without intermediaries, at every stage of the urban planning and management process.

Regular participation: Structures allow and encourage civil society participation at every stage of the urban planning and management process, and at least every six months.

Marginalized groups: Groups of people that are not traditionally given equal voice in governance processes. These include, but are not limited to, women, young men and women, low-income communities, ethnic minorities, religious minorities, people with disabilities, the elderly, sexual and gender identity minorities and migrants.

Structures: Any formal structure that allows for participation of civil society. This can include, but is not limited to: national or local legislation, policy, town council meetings, websites, elections, suggestion boxes, appeals processes, notice period for planning proposals etc.
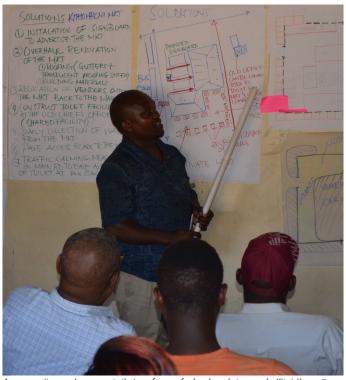
Civil Society: The combination of non-governmental organizations, community groups, community-based organizations, regional representative groups, unions, research institutes, think tanks, professional bodies, non-profit sports and cultural groups, and any other groups that represent the interests and wills of the members and wider community.

Urban Management: The officials, including elected officials and public servants, that are responsible for city-management, across all sectors, such as roads, water, sanitation, energy, public space, land title etc.

Urban Budget decision making: The process by which money is allocated to various sectors of urban management, including roads, water, sanitation, energy, public space, land title etc.

Urban Planning, including Design and Agreements: The technical and political process that concerns the development and use of land, how the natural environment is used etc. Design includes over-arching and specific design of public space, as well as zoning and land use definitions. Agreements refer to specific contract/arrangements made with various groups in regard to their land, e.g. Indigenous groups, protected natural environments etc.

A community member presents their preference for local market upgrade, Kitui, Kenya © Baraka Mwau

1.3 Method of Computation

To measure participatory planning, a score-card approach will be used to evaluate the available structures for civil society participation in urban planning and management, as evaluated by five **(5) local experts from government, academia, civil society and international organizations**[1].

A questionnaire with a 4-point Likert scale (strongly disagree, disagree, agree, and strongly agree) will be used to measure and test the structures for civil society participation in urban governance and management.

1. Are there structures for civil society participation in urban planning, including design and agreements, that are direct, regular and democratic?

2. Are there structures for civil society participation in local urban budget decision-making, that are direct, regular and democratic?

3. Are there structures for civil society evaluation and feedback on the performance of urban management, that are direct, regular and democratic?

4. Do these structures promote the participation of women, young men and women, and/or other marginalized groups?

The evaluators will score each of the questions on the Likert Scale, as on the table below.

1   The categories of civil society and international organizations will include professional associations, representatives of women, youth, older persons and persons with disabilities.

Once each of the five (5) categories is evaluated as shown in the table above, the scored will be averaged to have a final score per evaluator. These will then be average to get a final score per city.

The Likert Scale will use the following guidance:

Strongly Disagree: There are no structures in place or available structures do not allow civil society participation that is direct, regular or democratic.

Disagree: Structures exist that allow civil society participation, but they are only partially direct, regular and democratic; or they are only one of direct, regular or democratic.

Agree: Structures exist that allow and encourage civil society participation that is direct and/or regular and/or democratic, but not all three.

Strongly Agree: Structures exist that allow and encourage civil society participation that is fully direct, regular and democratic.

Evaluators will be given further detailed guidance and criteria to follow.

1 - Strongly disagree, 2 - Disagree, 3 - Agree, 4 - Strongly agree

	Strongly disagree (1)	Disagree (2)	Agree (3)	Strongly Agree (4)
Are there structures for civil society participation in urban planning, including design and agreements, that are direct, regular and democratic?				
Are there structures for civil society participation in urban budget decision making, that are direct, regular and democratic?				
Are there structures for civil society evaluation and feedback on the performance of urban management, that are direct, regular and democratic?				
Do the structures promote the participation of women, young men and women, and/or other marginalized groups?				

2. Rationale and interpretation

This indicator aims to measure the progress and willingness of elected officials, urban managers and planners to integrate resident participation at various levels. Local authorities and governments, along with the international community, are increasingly recognizing the value of residents' participation in strengthening the urban development process. This people-centered approach is used in urban development processes, and the implementation of community projects, and remains one of the key methodologies being developed to address priority development issues at citywide or local levels.

Public participation fosters a positive relationship between government and the public by communicating effectively and solving the conflicts in a cooperative manner. In many cases when urban planning decisions are made without consultation, the desired results are not achieved and there is a negative impact on society, due to inefficient allocation and use of resources. Ensuring that a wide variety of opinions are considered assists the decision makers with understanding the interlinkages and nature of problems and potential solutions facing different urban settings.

Urban development is a reflection of ideology and national institutions. Public participation means a broader consensus is built and this greatly enhances political interaction between citizens and government, and enhances the legitimacy of the planning process and the plan itself. A plan is more effective if a broad coalition supports the proposal and works together to deliver it.

Public participation also shows respect to participants' opinion, needs, aspirations and assets. It can boost their enthusiasm for citizenship and politics, and strengthens their influence in urban planning and public life. When conflicting claims and views are considered, there is a much higher possibility that public trust and buy-in increases in the final outcome. This has broader implications for building an active, inclusive and equitable society and more inclusive and sustainable urban environments.

3. Disaggregation

Potential Disaggregation:
- Disaggregation by city

4. Sources and data collection processes

Evaluators examine structures at the city and country level, including, for example, legislation, rules and regulations, policies and practice. Data is collected from Evaluators reports and scores who are attached to local urban observatories in various cities.

5. Comments and limitations

The indicator measures the availability of structures for participation, based on the perception of evaluators who are locally based and attached to the city urban observatories.

6. Current data availability/ indicator tier

Data is available in selected cities

7. Responsible entities

UN-Habitat and other partners are supporting various components (systems, tools for data collection at the city level and capacity strengthening, etc) for reporting on this indicator. The global responsibility of building the capacity of national governments and statistical agencies to report on this indicator will be led by UN-Habitat. National governments/national statistical agencies will have the primary responsibility of reporting on this indicator at national level with the support of UN-Habitat to ensure uniform standards in analysis and reporting.

Ongoing training of city planners organized by the UN-Habitat, Port-Au-Prince, Haiti © UN-Habitat.

8. Data collection and data release calendar

The monitoring of the indicator can be repeated at regular intervals of four (4) years, allowing for three (3) reporting points until the year 2030. Data will be collected every year from various cities for updating the database.

9. Treatment of missing values

All countries are expected to fully report on this indicator more consistently after a 2-3 years with few challenges where missing values will be reported.

10. Sources of differences between global and national figures

None expected

11. Regional and global estimates and data collection for global monitoring

Data at the regional levels will be estimated from national figures derived from national sample of urban centres. Regional estimates incorporate national representations using a weighting by population sizes that is attached to cities that are reporting. This methodology is now defined fully as part of the national sample of cities approach (https://unhabitat.org/national-sample-of-cities/). Global monitoring is led by UN-Habitat with the support of other partners and regional commissions.

12. References

UN-Habitat. Planning Sustainable Cities: Global Report on Human Settlements 2009. Pages 93-109.

Ziari Keramat Allah, Nikpay Vahid, Hosseini Ali. Measuring The Level Of Public Participation In Urban Management Based On The Urban Good Governing Pattern: A Case Study Of Yasouj. Housing and Rural Environment   Spring 2013, Volume 32, Number 141; Page(S) 69 To 86.

National sample of cities approach. https://unhabitat.org/national-sample-of-cities/

City definitions:
Ongoing pilots and workshops: https://unhabitat.org/preparing-cities-in-africa-to-monitor-and-report-on-goal-11/

Inclusive planning, Sangli, India © designother90.org

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