UN-HABITAT

SURGe SUSTAINABLE URBAN RESILIENCE FOR THE NEXT GENERATION

WITH THE SUPPORT OF THE SLOVAK REPUBLIC

Urban implementation of NDCs 3.0

UN-Habitat's offer of support to Member States through SURGe

NDCs 3.0 confirm a structural shift in climate policy: cities are moving to the centre of national climate plans. The question now facing Member States is how to deliver their commitments at the urban level.

UN-Habitat's offer to Member States

At COP31, UN-Habitat, as the United Nations focal point for sustainable urbanization and human settlements, is launching its support offer to Member States to help them in the finalization and implementation of NDCs 3.0 in and with cities.

UN-Habitat support is catalytic. By helping countries in the development of their NDC urban implementation strategies, it paves the way for project preparation facilities, climate funds, governments and investors to prepare and fund bankable projects aligned with national priorities that simultaneously address local sustainable urban development.

Urban implementation strategies bridge commitment and on-the-ground delivery. They translate the urban opportunities in NDCs 3.0 into action, align priorities and actors and enhance the policy environment and lay the foundation to mobilize climate finance.

Through SURGe, UN-Habitat supports Member States in developing **urban implementation strategies** that deliver NDCs 3.0 in and with cities, **turning climate commitments into urban policy and local implementation roadmaps**, aligned with local plans.

Support is available across **SURGe priority sectors** for delivering urban climate action: buildings and housing, urban energy, municipal solid waste and circular economy, urban mobility, urban water, and urban biodiversity and nature-based solutions. Tailored to priorities and needs, support consists of:

- **Analysis of NDC 3.0:** Understanding the urban-level commitments and priority sectors of the NDC, as well as the policy landscape enabling delivery - the starting point of an urban implementation strategy.
- **Multilevel and multisectoral coordination**: Convening ministries, subnational governments, the private sector, financing institutions, and partners to agree on priorities of an urban implementation strategy.
- **Co-development of an implementation roadmap**: Building on the national and local policy environment to develop an implementation roadmap.
- **Project pipelines and climate finance mobilization:** Turning the urban implementation strategy into a pipeline of investment-ready urban projects and facilitating partnerships for climate finance.

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Country-level experiences inform global processes

Experience from each country feeds global processes, including the Ministerial Meeting on Urbanization and Climate Change at UNFCCC COPs, the Global Stocktake and the implementation of the IPCC Special Report on Climate Change and Cities, bringing subnational and national knowledge into international agendas.

What the offer builds on

Seizing the Urban Opportunity: a 3-step guide for strengthening NDCs 3.0, the methodology for assessing and strengthening the urban content of national climate plans.

Urban Content in NDC 3.0: Cities at the Centre, the global analysis of NDCs 3.0, with country scores, regional breakdowns and thematic deep dives.

The sectoral work of SURGe across six urban sectors, including the sectoral deep-dive analyses.



Key findings from

This fact sheet draws on Urban Content in NDC 3.0: Cities at the Centre, UN-Habitat's analysis of the urban content of all 164 NDCs 3.0 submitted to the UNFCCC by mid-October 2026.

80%

of NDCs 3.0 contain well-developed urban content, up from 50 per cent in NDC 2.0.

73%

make cities a priority through specific policies, projects, legislation or enabling mechanisms.

3 in 5

countries improved their urban content grade between NDC generations.

Interested in exploring how we can support your country's urban implementations strategy?

Requests can be made through UN-Habitat's helpdesk by writing to unhabitat-climate@un.org. Three Regional SURGe coordinators further support countries in Africa, Asia-Pacific and Latin America and the Caribbean.

About SURGe

Launched by the COP 27 Presidency in collaboration with UN-Habitat and ICLEI, SURGe is operationalized by UN-Habitat with support of the Slovak Republic. Through SURGe, UN-Habitat is supporting countries in putting cities at the centre of their NDC 3.0 and bringing these learnings to the global level through platforms like Ministerial Meetings at UNFCCC COPs and the Innovate4Cities Conferences.