

URBAN THINKERS CAMPUS

THE CITY WE NEED
CASERTA, ITALY • 15 - 18 October 2014

Participants Guide



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Setting the context for a new urban paradigm

Humanity is at a crossroads, undergoing a major urban shift that is transforming our world. Urbanization has become an inevitable process that presents tremendous challenges, with cities growing at unprecedented rates in many nations. If not critically re-examined, urbanization will continue to propagate negative trends, including: increased segregation, inequality, and environmental degradation.

Many researchers, professionals, and decision-makers believe that urbanization is a tremendous opportunity for change and progress, and that the potential of cities should be harnessed to lead a positive transformation. These are the urban thinkers who believe in a better urban future. They are convinced that cities do offer enormous promises, with overwhelming potential for innovation and a better life. Cities can become engines of economic development and spaces of freedom, innovation, prosperity, and resilience. This was stated by the World Urban Campaign partners in the consensus document *The City We Need*:

Cities are either helpful or unhelpful in achieving sustainable development. As we declared in the 2012 Manifesto for Cities and further reiterate here: "the battle for a more sustainable future will be won or lost in cities". How we plan, build and manage our cities now will determine the outcome of our efforts to achieve a sustainable and harmonious development tomorrow. Well-planned cities afford all residents the opportunity to lead safe, healthy, and productive lives. Well-designed cities present nations with major opportunities to promote social inclusion, resilience and prosperity.

Partners of the World Urban Campaign have also called for a new urban paradigm based on a critical review of current urbanization patterns and practices:

To make sure we have the city we need in the 21st century cities our new urban paradigm will have to be guided by a set of principles preliminarily articulated in the Manifesto for Cities (...). We will have to translate these principles into policy action areas tailored to local conditions.



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The first version of *The City We Need* was prepared by the World Urban Campaign from September through December 2013, and was launched in March 2014 in New York prior to the Seventh Session of the World Urban Forum. *The City we Need* represents a first consensus of all partners engaged to date in the global coalition and set nine principles:

1. *The city we need is socially inclusive*
2. *The city we need is well planned*
3. *The city we need is a regenerative city*
4. *The city we need is economically vibrant and inclusive*
5. *The city we need has a singular identity and sense of place*
6. *The city we need is a safe city*
7. *The city we need is a healthy city*
8. *The city we need is affordable and equitable*
9. *The city we need is managed at the metropolitan level.*

While principles need to be clearly acknowledged by all partners, policy and legislative frameworks, as well as urban solutions, should also be proposed in order to guide the New Urban Agenda.

The Urban Thinkers Campus will enable debate and open the conversation to all urban thinkers who are ready to contribute and to join the battle for a sustainable urban future.

The Urban Thinkers Campus: An Open Space for Critical Exchange and Consensus Building

One month after the first Preparatory Committee for the Habitat III Conference, where national government representatives have reiterated their commitment to defining a New Urban Agenda, partners can come together to collectively define their road map towards Habitat III. The Urban Thinkers Campus offers an open space for partners to do this. The Campus convenes representatives of various constituencies and partner organizations to debate urban challenges and solutions, to learn from each other, and to exchange on emerging practices that can positively contribute to a new urban paradigm.

The Urban Thinkers Campus is also meant to allow partners to build consensus. Participants should ask themselves what the common values and principles are that they want to support. They should also agree on the key messages that they want to promote in order to make a strong collective contribution to the Habitat III process and the future implementation of the New Urban Agenda.

In order to gain acceptance of their vision for the New Urban Agenda, partners need to agree through a process of building positive exchange that can lead to a consensus. By promoting a common position, partners will have a stronger voice in the international negotiations. They will also have a greater impact on public opinion and on the media in order to raise their level of influence.



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The Urban Thinkers Spirit

The Campus is not a formal conference where speakers make official presentations. Rather, the Urban Thinkers Campus is meant to be a place to share, learn, and brainstorm on the new urban paradigm towards Habitat III. The format of the Campus is flexible, based on open facilitated sessions, allowing for a high level of participant interaction. All participants will have equal opportunities to voice their views, ideas, and to present evidence to support their vision.

In a spirit of sharing, the Campus will include Urban Thinkers Sessions, which will allow a high level of exchange. These sessions will be organized both by constituency groups and by theme.

In a spirit of learning, the Campus will include Urban Labs to explore new practices and models that can inspire participants. While the labs will focus on new thinking and innovation, participants should always question the possibility for new practices and models to be implemented at a meaningful scale. These Labs will be presented with innovation and implementation in mind.

To successfully achieve these outcomes, participants should attend the Campus with an open mind, and should be prepared to express their views in the debates.

Expected Outcomes: A Stronger City We Need Vision

On the basis of the first *City We Need* position elaborated by the World Urban Campaign¹ (Annex 2), participants at the Urban Thinkers Campus will be called to elaborate on *The City we Need*, giving input from the point of view of the constituency or thematic background that they represent.

Expected outcomes are as follows:

1. Detailed *City We Need* (draft) positions from each constituency (women, grassroots, local authorities, parliamentarians, youth and children, research and academia, professionals, etc.), along a format to be agreed upon by participants at the Campus.
2. Detailed *City We Need* (draft) positions from each thematic group defined at the Campus and along a format that will be agreed upon by participants.
3. A detailed joint *City We Need* (draft) document as a collective position of constituencies represented at the Campus.
4. A road map of partners' activities and outputs towards the Habitat III Conference.

While Constituents Sessions, Urban Thinkers Sessions, and Urban Labs are meant to feed the debate and to allow participants to bring their ideas, the Drafting Sessions on Day 3 will allow groups to prepare substantive written inputs in order to help deliver the above outcomes.



¹ Launched in New York on 4 March 2014, one month before the 7th Session of the World Urban Forum (Medelin, April 2014).

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Be prepared

Participants should prepare themselves before the Campus.

In particular, they should:

- Read the **Manifesto for Cities** and **The City We Need** documents (Annexes 1 and 2).
- Familiarize themselves with the Habitat III Conference process (<http://www.unhabitat.org/habitat-iii/>) and the World Urban Campaign (<http://www.worldurbancampaign.org>).
- Assemble materials that can be shared at the Campus as reading references. These can be positions that were previously from the group that they represent, or new urban solutions. Participants should bring copies that they want to share - alternatively, documents can be shared on a common DropBox by the Campus Secretariat.
- Prepare essential written elements that can be incorporated in the drafting process.
- Consult the latest Urban Thinkers Campus programme on the UN-Habitat website (<http://www.unhabitat.org/urbanthinkers/>).



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The Programme

The Campus will be centred around a series of thematic debates, workshops, trainings, labs, and dialogue sessions, as well as city wide awareness-raising events and activities.

	09:00 - 10:30	11:00 - 13:00		14.00-16.00	16.15-18.15	19.00-20.00
OCT '14 15 Wednesday	WELCOME SESSION	CONSTITUENT GROUP SESSIONS	LUNCH BREAK/ URBAN CINEMA	URBAN THINKERS & URBAN LABS SESSION	URBAN THINKERS & URBAN LABS SESSION	
				WORLD URBAN CAMPAIGN STEERING COMMITTEE MEETING		
OCT '14 16 Thursday	OFFICIAL PLENARY & THE CITY WE NEED DEBATE	CONSTITUENT GROUP SESSIONS	LUNCH BREAK/ URBAN CINEMA	URBAN THINKERS & URBAN LABS SESSION	URBAN THINKERS & URBAN LABS SESSION	URBAN TALK
	URBAN JOURNALISM ACADEMY					
OCT '14 17 Friday	THE CITY WE NEED DEBATE	DRAFTING SESSION	LUNCH BREAK/ URBAN CINEMA	DRAFTING SESSION	THE CITY WE NEED DEBATE Closing Session	
	DIGITAL MEDIA ACADEMY					
OCT '14 18 Saturday	CITY EVENT		LUNCH BREAK/ URBAN CINEMA			



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Welcome Session

This session will welcome all urban thinkers participants. The main Habitat Agenda Partners and key constituent groups will address the Campus by voicing their views on *The City We Need* and the Habitat III process towards a New Urban Agenda.

Constituent Group Sessions

Constituent Group Sessions are organized by constituent groups, in which where urban thinkers will debate and brainstorm with their peers. In particular, they should focus on:

- Debating urbanization challenges and issues, particularly since Habitat II;
- Agreeing on policies and principles that will address those;
- Proposing solutions towards inclusive, safe, resilient, and sustainable cities;
- Summarizing views and proposals in order to contribute to a joint City We Need that will support the New Urban Agenda.

Urban Thinkers Sessions

Urban Thinkers Sessions are open to all participants and address thematic urban issues across all constituencies and groups. These sessions are proposed and run by partners, and will feed the debate on key issues in order to contribute solutions to a new urban paradigm.

Urban Labs

Ideas and solutions will be shared in separate innovative sessions to inform participants of new urban developments. These Labs will inform participants of new ways of thinking and new approaches to urban problems, while stimulating debate on how to incorporate solutions into the New Urban Agenda.

The City We Need Debates

The City We Need Debates will bring together all urban thinkers in a global discussion on the key issues and principles of *The City We Need*. Participants will convene in this plenary session to discuss and recap on the key ideas and developments. The Debates will help to build a consensus and to prepare partners to draft positions around the main themes of *The City We Need*.



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Drafting Sessions

The drafting sessions will be held for urban thinkers (those nominated from their various sessions) involved in the drafting process, which will ultimately contribute the outcome documents to feed into *The City We Need*. However, groups and participants involved are encouraged to prepare documents prior to the event.

Urban Cinema

Urban films related to *The City We Need* will be screened during lunch time slots.

Urban Talks

Urban Talks will be held at the end of Day 2, involving expert personalities in a broadcasted live debate on *The City We Need*.

Urban Journalism Academy

The Urban Journalism Academy is intended for international and national journalists, as well as communications and media professionals, who are interested or involved in urban development. The objective is to train participants on how best to cover urbanization issues for a wide range of audiences.

Digital Media Academy

The Digital Media Academy seeks to showcase digital media strategies that can assist organizations to increase their options for engagement with their communities, stakeholders, and potential collaborators as they contribute to urbanization issues.

Practical Information

The Venue

Caserta is located 40 kilometres north of Naples. It is accessible by train from Naples and Rome (respectively 40 min, and 2 hours 30 min by train). The Campus will be held at Belvedere of San Leucio, which is 5 km away from the City Hall of Caserta, Piazza Luigi Vanvitelli.

Participation

Participation in WUF7 is open to all Habitat Agenda Partners and institutions working on issues related to sustainable urbanization.

Registration

Registration can be done until the beginning of the Campus on-line at www.unhabitat.org/urbanthinkers.



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Accreditation at the Venue

Participants are requested to come to the venue with their acknowledgement of registration email. Each individual should also present the passport (for international participants) or identification card (for national participants) which was used for registration in order to receive a badge.

Accommodation

Please find information on accommodation in Caserta on the website of the Universal Forum of Cultures of Naples and Campania (<http://www.forumdelleculture.caserta.it/hotel.php>).

Visas

A valid passport and visa is required to enter Italy. Where a visa is required, participants are strongly advised to apply as early as possible and to consult with the Italian Embassy in their respective countries.

Travelling to Caserta

Participants are responsible for their travel to and from Italy, and are also required to cover their cost of travel, accommodation in Caserta, and all other expenses related to their trip.

Medical Insurance

Prior to arrival, all participants should ensure that they have adequate medical insurance covering the full duration of their stay in Italy.



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Annexes

Annex 1 - Manifesto for Cities

We, representatives of the Habitat Agenda Partners, having met at the sixth session of the World Urban Forum in Naples, call upon the international community and all public, private and social actors to commit to a Global Urban Agenda so as to ensure our sustainable future. This urban agenda will be our contribution to and one of the outcomes of the Third Conference on Human Settlements (Habitat III)

Preamble

The urban world we want will bring the promise of a better future. Our cities are up to the challenge to deliver a sustainable future. The city will be a humanizing experience which generates justice, knowledge and happiness. It will rely on the power of intelligence, audacity, wise decision-makers, men and women, from youth to elders, while based on a better understanding of our landscape and eco-systems, history and culture. Decisions taken today in cities across the world will shape not only their own destinies but the social and environmental future of humankind.

We affirm that urbanization is inevitable. The world has entered an urban era where cities have taken the center stage, inevitably shaping our future. More people are choosing cities as the context for preferred lifestyles and stronger livelihood opportunities for their future well-being. Urbanization is driving our development and cities are back at the heart of our civilization.

We acknowledge the increasing dominance of urban space. While the world's urban population grew from 220 million to 2.8 billion over the 20th century, the 21st century will experience even more urban growth. By 2050, eight out of ten people in the world will be living in cities. This rapid urbanization is radically changing the economic, financial, social, and ecological landscape of our planet. It is the single greatest development challenge and opportunity for the 21st century.

We recognize that the current models of urbanization are socially, economically and environmentally unsustainable. Today's urban patterns simultaneously provide steep challenges. The city has lost its human scale; the urban space has often been designed and build with the metrics of the car and not that of the human. City dwellers use more than two third of the planet's natural resources. Rapid and unmanaged urbanization leads to the proliferation of slums and informality, increasing poverty and vulnerability to human-caused and natural hazards. These conditions threaten the safety, security and social cohesion of individuals, their neighborhoods, cities and nations.



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We assert that urbanization is a positive force to be harnessed in support of social equality, cultural vitality, economic prosperity and ecological security. Urbanization poses tremendous and complex opportunities for a shared, sustainable future. Cities are the world's greatest asset for pursuing sustainable development as they can be the driving force behind the solutions to meet global challenges. Cities have the potential for inclusive community building, support of diverse cultures, economies of scale and energy-efficient development.

We further recognize the ever-changing dynamics and the diversity of cities that requires a combination of interdependent skills, investment, technology and well-informed decision making to harness the development potential of urbanization.

We believe that the battle for a more sustainable future will be won or lost in cities. How we plan, build and manage our cities now will determine the outcome of our efforts to achieve a sustainable and harmonious development tomorrow. Harnessing the city as an asset requires the commitment of all as city changers and innovators for a better urban future.

We advocate a Global Urban Agenda to position sustainable cities at the heart of 21st century development. We call for a Global Urban Agenda to be premised on the assumption that failure to address contemporary urban challenges will reduce the ability to take advantage of urban opportunities.

We promote a Global Urban Agenda that envisions equitable, resilient, livable, creative and productive cities. A robust and adaptable Global Urban Agenda will incorporate measures for poverty reduction, environmental preservation, economic growth and good governance, cohesion among territories and metropolitan management. It will provide for the reduction of the ecological footprint of cities through integrated and holistic urban development policies, effective and participatory planning and management, green architecture and construction, and the use of methodologies and tools to track urban sustainable development. It should be an integral part of any development agenda.

We call for strong partnerships, Habitat Agenda Partners, to craft and implement a Global Urban Agenda. The creation of sustainable cities through crafting and implementing a Global Urban Agenda requires collaborative approaches based on strong partnerships. Such partnerships foster innovative ways of thinking, new levels of understanding and knowledge. The Habitat Agenda Partners (national governments, parliamentarians, local authorities, non-governmental organizations, grass-root organizations, academia, women's groups, human settlements professionals, the private sector and youth groups) have been key participants in the implementation of the Habitat Agenda, the outcome of the Second United Nations Conference on Human Settlements (Habitat II). These Partners are well placed to elaborate and build together the Global Urban Agenda and to contribute to Habitat III.

We know that strong partnerships involve City Changers Individuals who have the courage to effect change with its requirements for commitment and bold action, humanism and reconciliation with our civilization, territories and the nature are the basic material of strong partnerships. They are City Changers. They will work to make cities more respectful of the environment and the future generations, more beautiful and convivial and become the pride of their communities.



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We declare ourselves City Changers. We commit to take action and change cities for a better urban world. We will help craft a new Global Urban Agenda according to the following principles that will serve as its building blocks:

- Accessible land, infrastructure, services, mobility and housing;
- Socially inclusive, gender sensitive, healthy and safe development;
- Environmentally sound and carbon-efficient built environment;
- Participatory planning and decision making;
- Vibrant, creative and competitive local economies promoting decent work and livelihoods;
- Assurance of non-discrimination and equal rights to the city;
- Empowering cities and communities to plan for and effectively manage adversity and change.

We invite all Habitat Agenda partners to join forces and participate as equal partners in the formulation and adoption of a new Global Urban Agenda based on the above principles to be adopted on the occasion of Habitat III in 2016 as a blueprint and a global action plan in support of our common quest for more sustainable cities and communities.

We call upon national and local governments to work together in the creation of planning frameworks for a sustainable, equitable urban future.

We call upon the international community to build upon *The Future We Want* commitments adopted in Rio de Janeiro and to include targets for sustainable urban development as part of future global development goals.

We call upon the international community to build upon the positive experience of the Habitat II Conference and adopt an open and inclusive Habitat III Conference, including its preparatory process.



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Annex 2 - The Future We Want - *The City We Need*

Towards a New Urban Paradigm

At their last Steering Committee meeting in September 2013, the World Urban Campaign partners agreed to contribute to the Habitat III Conference by engaging the international community, public, private and social partners to contribute to the new Global Urban Agenda through a consensus document that describes The City We Need.

This document is a collective contribution of committed partners united by shared goals and a common vision of the city for the 21st century. It sets key principles, establishes essential paths for building a New Urban Agenda towards the Habitat III Conference.

The Campaign partners must ask what direction global urban development will take over the coming 20 years, and what shall guide governments and their partners, in addition to the international community, to prepare for the urban future. They need to provide pertinent answers as the 20-year anniversary of the Habitat Agenda looms, and while critical urban trends lead to increased segregation, inequality, and environmental degradation, making the urban agenda global priority.

This first version of City We Need was prepared by the World Urban Campaign from September to December 2013. It represents the consensus of all partners engaged to date in the global coalition.

Introduction

Cities are either helpful or unhelpful in achieving sustainable development. As we declared in the 2012 *Manifesto for Cities* and further reiterate here: **the battle for a more sustainable future will be won or lost in cities**". How we plan, build and manage our cities now will determine the outcome of our efforts to achieve a sustainable and harmonious development tomorrow. Well-planned cities afford all residents the opportunity to lead safe, healthy, and productive lives. Well-designed cities present nations with major opportunities to promote social inclusion, resilience and prosperity.

The world is at a crossroads. In the next few decades, urban dwellers will not only double in number accounting for nearly three quarters of world's population. More than 60 percent of the built environment needed to accommodate these new urban dwellers has yet to be built.

So what will our cities be like? Past and current trends provide some important lessons for what to avoid:

- Lack of national urban policies uncoordinated with regional and local regulatory frameworks that neglect investment in basic infrastructure, protection of the public realm and tenure security;
- Poor planning and "short-termism" that result in slums and informal settlements lacking public goods and services; irresponsible land use and construction yielding spontaneous urban sprawl vulnerable to natural and human-made disasters: flooding with each storm surge and crumbling under the force of earthquakes or fires;



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- Disregard of urban-rural linkages and the destruction of eco-system services upon which all humanity depends;
- Poorly regulated real estate markets that create speculative bubbles and financial crises;
- Mismanagement by all actors and tiers of government leading to inefficient and wasteful public services;
- Loss of urban identity caused by the destruction of cultural heritage, local bio-diversity and public space;
- Lack of effective participation and engagement, especially of youth, leading to social tension and unrest;
- Absence of effective implementation and financing mechanisms for executing needed policies and programs.

The cities we want should be engines of economic development and lie at the core of a new urban era where people can find freedom, innovation, prosperity and resilience. Public, private and civil society organizations offer thousands of important solutions both small and large. Primary among them are improvements in public services including mass transit, waste, water and energy supply and management; and better housing for low income groups or slum upgrading programs including community stand pipes, basic sewerage disposal, community health centers or cable cars to provide transportation to and from inaccessible areas. These efforts undoubtedly improve the lives of the people they touch.

But, in the end, these approaches do not address basic structural problems nor do they offer answers appropriately scaled for tomorrow's challenges. To do so requires rethinking the very organization of a city and envisioning its future. For this reason we need to forge **a new urban paradigm for the city we need.**

While *The City We Need* must recognize local contexts, cultures and customs, stripped to its barebones, it is founded on two key qualities: the respect of public and private uses of land, and a well coordinated system of systems. If a city is to function properly, it needs to coordinate very diverse agendas related land use, energy, water, waste, mobility, health and education, economic development and the promotion of cultural vitality and social inclusion. Consider it as a spatial entity: If it occupies its space well, it is livable and sustainable. If it runs rampant over the landscape, it is inefficient and destroys the environment on which it depends. Consider its complex and interlocking systems: engineering arrangements, social and cultural organizations, economic structures and environmental components. If like a tree where different parts work in harmony, they heighten possibilities for prosperity. But if like a machine run amuck, they malfunction and heighten human frailty.

To make sure we have the city we need in the 21st century cities our new urban paradigm will have to be guided by a set of principles preliminarily articulated in the Manifesto for Cities and further refined here. We will have to translate these principles into policy action areas tailored to local conditions.



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The City We Need: Principles for a New Urban Paradigm

The city we need is socially inclusive. It provides spaces for all segments and age groups of the population to partake in social and cultural expressions. It eliminates all physical and spatial forms of segregation and exclusion.

The city we need is well planned, walkable and transit-friendly. Schools are within walking or biking distance from homes. Offices are located no farther than a few transit stops away from homes. Shopping for daily necessities is within walking distance of residential buildings and located near transit stops. Open space for recreation is near schools, work and home.

The city we need is a regenerative city. It is designed to be resilient by being energy efficient, low-carbon and increasingly reliant on renewable energy sources. It replenishes the resources it consumes and recycles and reuses waste. It uses water, land and energy in a coordinated manner and in harmony with its surrounding hinterland in support of urban and peri-urban agriculture.

The city we need is economically vibrant and inclusive. It encourages and fosters local economic development from the smallest entrepreneur to the largest corporations. It provides a one-stop-shop for streamlined licensing and other administrative services. It recognizes and protects the specific needs of the informal sector of the economy in its economic development policies and strategies.

The city we need has a singular identity and sense of place. It recognizes culture as key to human dignity and to sustainability. It involves cultural actors to unlock the creative potential of all citizens. It strengthens the bonds between city and its surrounding hinterland.

The city we need is a safe city. The city is welcoming night and day, inviting all people to use the streets, parks and transit without fear. Public officials -the police, the fire department and health, welfare, transit and environmental services - and neighborhood residents and community groups communicate frequently and speak with one voice.

The city we need is a healthy city. The city's parks and gardens are havens of peace and tranquility and harbor local flora and fauna and biodiversity. All public and private entities providing public services (water, waste, energy, transport) work together with the city's residents and have public and environmental health as a common performance indicator.

The city we need is affordable and equitable. Land, infrastructure, housing and basic services are planned with low income groups in mind. Public services are planned together with the communities they serve and consciously include the needs of women, youth and vulnerable populations.

The city we need is managed at the metropolitan level. It coordinates sectoral policies and actions (economy, mobility, biodiversity, energy, water and waste ...) within in a comprehensive and coherent local framework. Communities and neighborhoods are active participants in metropolitan decision making. Roles and responsibilities between all stakeholders, while respecting the principle of subsidiarity, are clearly defined with resources allocated strategically, justly and around a common agenda.



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In sum, *the city we need* is socially inclusive, well-planned, regenerative and resilient, and prosperous.

The Policy and Legislative Framework We Need: A Roadmap for a New Urban Paradigm

To achieve the 21st century city we need, we must encourage nations, regions, cities, and the Habitat Partners to work together to craft their respective policy and legislative frameworks that:

- Calls for each nation to adopt its own national urban policy, one that also drives and coordinates regional and local urban policy that embodies the key principles of a new urban paradigm: cities planned to be just and inclusive, resilient and regenerative, and prosperous
- Asks public and private decision-makers to move from sectoral interventions to those that address the city as whole and are at the scale of the problems. These interventions should:
 - Embrace the compact and mixed-use city.
 - Assert that public space is a highly effective method for improving a city's functioning, identity and sense of place.
- Places marginalized groups, including women, as primary beneficiaries of the called-for solutions based on the principle of equal rights to the city in terms of access to housing, land and basic services.
- Assumes that solutions will involve all actors of society - public, private and non-governmental in a participatory manner.
- Puts democratic and transparent controls on public goods such as the public domain, urban services and land management.
- Sets regularly reviewed and revised legislated targets and an associated roadmap for cities working in close collaboration with private sector and civil society stakeholders to ensure implementation of policy measures.
- Establishes urban observatories open to the public to monitor and measure progress by mutually agreed to indicators and to inform decision makers on the state of urban sprawl, urban biodiversity, affordability and access to housing, public services, urban mobility, urban safety, etc.

