EXPERTS

Each Policy Unit is composed by 20 experts, coming from different geographic areas and constituencies. They have been appointed by the Secretary General of the Conference, in close consultation with the Bureau of the Preparatory Committee for Habitat III, after receiving nominations from Member States and stakeholders.

The main objectives of the Policy Unit are:

// To bring together high-level expertise to explore state-of-the-art research and analysis on specific themes;

// To identify good practices and lessons learned; and

// To develop policy recommendations on particular issues regarding sustainable urban development.

Duties, and responsibilities for the policy unit experts

- Contribute with reviewing substantive documents prepared for the process of the Post-2015, and other relevant intergovernmental conferences;
- Support conducting analysis of the available data, including statistics and information in Habitat III Issue Papers, outcomes from official Regional and Thematic meetings, etc.
- Support preparation of the structure, the preliminary contents and messages of the Policy Papers at the first and second Expert Group Meetings (EGM1 and EGM2);
- Participate in meetings organized online and other virtual exchanges;
- Advise on incorporating proposed changes into the draft Policy Papers, harmonize Policy Papers and submit it to the Habitat III Secretariat.
The twenty experts for Policy Unit 7 are (alphabetical order):

**Anthony Venables**
*Professor of Economics, University of Oxford*
He is a Professor of Economics at the University of Oxford where he also directs the Centre for the Analysis of Resource Rich Economies. He is a Fellow of the British Academy and of the Econometric Society. Former positions include Chief Economist at the UK Department for International Development, professor at the London School of Economics, research manager of the trade research group in the World Bank, and advisor to the UK Treasury. He has published extensively in the areas of international trade and spatial economics, including work on trade and imperfect competition, economic integration, multinational firms, and economic geography.

**Catherine Gamper**
*Public Governance and Territorial Development Directorate, OECD*
She holds a PhD in Political Economics from University of Innsbruck, Austria. She’s a Economist and Policy Analyst at OECD, Paris. Governance Specialist at The World Bank, Washington, DC. Member of Strategy and Scientific Advisory Board, alps Centre for Natural Hazard Management, Austria. Evaluator at European Union Commission.

**Coroline Kihato**
*Senior Research Fellow at the School of Architecture and Planning at the University of the Witwatersrand*
She is a Senior Research Fellow at the School of Architecture and Planning at the University of the Witwatersrand. In 2011, she received a MacArthur award on Migration and Development and spent a year as a Visiting Fellow at the Institute for the Study of International Migration (ISIM), Georgetown University, Washington DC. Her career has involved both teaching and conducting research in the academy and the non-profit sector in South Africa. She was previously a Policy Analyst at the Development Bank of Southern Africa and a Senior Lecturer in the School of Architecture and Planning at the University of the Witwatersrand. Her research and teaching interests are migration, governance and urbanization in the global South. She holds an MSc in Development Planning (University of the Witwatersrand) and a PhD in Sociology (University of South Africa). She is the co-editor of Urban Diversity: Space, Culture and Inclusive Pluralism in Cities Worldwide (Johns Hopkins).

**Diego Carrión**
*Architect, Central University of Ecuador.*
He also holds a diploma in Development Planning (Development Planning Unit, University College London) and a PhD in Urban Planning (Technical University of Delft, The Netherlands). He was Professor at the Central University of Ecuador, and founder, director and researcher at the Research Centre, CIUDAD. He was also the founder, dean and professor of the Faculty of Architecture and Design, Catholic Pontifical University of Ecuador. He served as Director General of Planning, and Secretary of Territorial Development of the Metropolitan Municipality of Quito. Currently he is an independent consultant, who has carried out consultancy and advisory services on urban issues.
Djimasra Ndjitiidje
Professor, Université de N’Djaména
He holds PhD in Economic Science, Laboratoire d’economie d’Orleans (LEO), UMR-CNRS, France. Responsible for the MA course at University of N’Djamena, Faculty of Low and Economic Science, Chad - Consultant in charge of training and studies at the Cabinet AFRICSTRACOM - Teacher of economic subjects at the Superior Management Institute (Institut superieur de Gestion).

Gulden Erkut
Professor Istanbul Technical University
He is a Professor in Istanbul Technical University, Turkey, where she is the head of the Regional Planning Section in the Department of Urban and Regional Planning. She holds a D.Phil. in Urban and Regional Planning (ITU) and a Master of Science in Urban Planning and Bachelor of Science in Sociology (Middle East Technical University, Turkey). Her research focuses on urban culture and space, globalization and city-regions and cross-border cooperation and spatial development. Erkut has been an adviser to the Thrace Development Union for regional planning and Metropolitan Municipality of Istanbul for a variety of master plans and strategic plans, and the preparation of OECD Metropolitan Review of Istanbul. She is member of Regional Science Association International, Regional Studies Association and Turkish Section of European Regional Science Association.

Ivan Turok
Human Sciences Research Council (HSRC) Cape Town
He is Acting Executive Director at the HSRC and Honorary Professor at the Universities of Glasgow and Cape Town. He is Editor-in-Chief of Regional Studies and Chairman of the City Planning Commission for Durban. He is an expert adviser to the United Nations, OECD, European Commission and several governments. He has written extensively on urban and regional development and policy in the global north and is now committed to working in the south.

Jerome Pourbaix
Head of Policy, International Association of Public Transport
At the moment he is the Head of Policy at the International Association of Public Transport (UITP). He leads its international advisory activities, currently focusing on the economic case for public transport and future role of public transport in cities. He also supervises UITP’s urban transport data collection and analysis activities. Previously he worked at the European Commission and the international city network Polis. He studied Sociology in Belgium and the United Kingdom. He is also an author of several publications on transport systems and urban planning.

Juan Ignacio Duarte
Coordinator de Productión de Suelo Urbano, Dirección de Suelo Urbano
He holds PhD in Social Sciences, University of Buenos Aires. He’s the Coordinator at Urban Land Development Direction, Advisor at management of state assets agency, Advisor at Secretary of territorial planning of public investment, Advisor at San Martin Municipality, Professor at Territorial and Environmental Management Seminar.
Kareem Ibrahim
Takween for Integrated Community Development
He is an architect and planner graduated from Cairo University in 1995. In 1997, he worked on the UNDP’s Historic Cairo Rehabilitation Project. He has also worked for Aga Khan Cultural Services – Egypt between 1997 and 2010 as the Built Environment Coordinator of the Darb al-Ahmar Revitalization Project, one of Cairo’s most ambitious urban revitalization programs. In 2009, he co-founded Takween Integrated Community Development and has been working on a range of issues including sustainable architecture, participatory planning, affordable housing, public infrastructure, and urban revitalization throughout Egypt with a number of local and international organizations. He is one of the project leaders of TADAMUN.

Luis Jaime Sobrino
Professor, Centro de Estudios Demograficos Urbanos y Ambientales
He has a PhD in Urban Planning from the Autonomous National University of Mexico. His research interests are urban competitiveness, expanding metropolitan urban housing market and internal migration. He is an author and co-author of books, articles and chapters on issues related to urban and regional economy. He is a professor in CEDUA and a visiting professor at the universities of East Anglia (England), Bucknell (United States). He is a member of the Mexican Society of Demography and Global Urban Competitiveness Project.

Marling Haydee Rodriguez
Huairou Commission
She is the President at Union of Women Farmer Cooperatives Las Brumas, Nicaragua. She’s also part of network of Women and peace in Central America Huairou Commission, GROOTS International and the Cafe Conglomerate through Local the Ministry of Local Government.

Martha Chen
Lecturer in Public Policy at the Harvard Kennedy School
She holds PhD, Department of South Asia Regional Studies, University of Pennsylvania. She’s is an affiliated Professor, Graduate School of Design, Harvard University; Professor, Lecturer, Senior Associate, Development Advisor, Research Associate. Dr. Chen is also a development practitioner and scholar who has worked with the working poor in India, South Asia, and around the world. She has many publications and books, and has received many honors and international awards.

Miguel Luiz Bucalem
Center for Cities, University Ecuador
He holds PhD in Civil Engineering, MIT, USA. Professor- at Center for Cities, University of Sao Paulo. Worked for the Municipality of Sao Paulo. Published many books and articles, member of International Advisory Committee.

Myounggu Kang
Professor of Urban and Regional Planning, University of Seoul
He holds a PhD in Urban and Regional Planning from MIT. Currently a Senior Urban Specialist at the World Bank and a Professor of Urban and Regional Planning at the University of Seoul. He has worked as Director-General of International Urban Development Collaboration at the Seoul Metropolitan Government and for United Nations has wrote a Paper on Urban Planning for City Leaders (Korean Version UN Habitat). With 20 years of experience he has theoretical knowledge and practical experience in urban and regional planning.
Rod Regier
Executive Director, Economic Development, City of Kitchener, Canada
He is the Executive Director of Economic Development for the City of Kitchener. He received an Honours Bachelor degree in Geography at the University of Winnipeg, and a Masters in Regional Planning at the University of Waterloo. After graduating from Waterloo, Regier worked briefly with the Region of Hamilton-Wentworth in planning policy; then for 16 years with the Government of Newfoundland and Labrador in various capacities: municipal planning, regional economic development and provincial economic policy with a special focus on dialogue between business, labour and government on provincial competitiveness in global markets. In his current position, Rod provides leadership to a staff team and community of stakeholders implementing the Kitchener’s Economic Development Strategy (KEDS.11). Key initiatives include Start Up City, Cluster Development, Talent, the Downtown Action Plan, and the Innovation District.

Samba Diouf
Urbanist, Direction de l’Urbanisme et de l’Architecture
He is an urbanist. He obtained his diploma at the School of Architecture and Urbanism of Dakar. At the moment Samba Diouf works as a deputy director at Direction de la Surveillance et du Contrôle de l’Occupation du Sol (DSCOS).

Sandeep Charchra
Centre for Informal sector and Labour Studies, School Social Sciences, Jawahar Lal Nehru University
He’s currently enrolled in PhD Centre for Informal Sector and Labour Studies at Jawahar Lal Nehru University. Executive Director of ActionAid India. Active member of International Development Economies Associates and world Forum of Alternatives Council. Volunteers as National Advisor on Homelessness and Urban Poverty.

Suzan Mohamed Alajjawi
Acting Director, Environment Policy and Planning Directorate Supreme Council for Environment
She is Director of Environment Policy and Planning Directorate Supreme Council for Environment in the Kingdom of Bahrain. She is professionally interested in the environment field and has more than 15 years of practical experience in Strategic Environmental Assessment, Environmental Impact Assessment, Climate Change and Sustainable Development, Government affairs, Policy Making with hands on National Environmental Law and Regulations. She is also the co-author of such books as “Towards a Green Bahrain” and «State of the Environment in the Kingdom of Bahrain 2009”.

Taufique Hossain
Deputy Director, Urban Development Directorate, Ministry of Housing and Public Works
He is an urban planner and director of town planning for the government’s Capital Development Authority, and currently serves as deputy director for Urban Development Directorate in Ministry of Housing and Public Works.