



# HABITAT III POLICY PAPER FRAMEWORK

## 1 – THE RIGHT TO THE CITY AND CITIES FOR ALL

31 December 2015

*(not edited version)*





***This Habitat III Policy Paper Framework DRAFT has been prepared by the Habitat III Policy Unit 1 members and submitted by 31 December 2015. It has followed the Habitat III Policy Paper Framework template provided by the Habitat III Secretariat to all Habitat III Policy Units<sup>1</sup>.***

***Habitat III Policy Units are co-led by two international organizations and composed by a maximum of 20 experts each, bringing together individual experts from a variety of fields, including academia, government, civil society and other regional and international bodies.***

***The composition of the Policy Unit 1 can be consulted at [www.habitat3.org](http://www.habitat3.org)***

<sup>1</sup> Note by the Secretariat: In specific cases slightly changes to the Habitat III Policy Paper Framework template have been accepted such as addition of executive summaries, introductions, bibliography, etc. However all frameworks have been adapted to the three basic expected accomplishments: challenges, priorities and implementation. In this Policy Unit, the implementation part has not been included. An updated version with the Implementation part will be published as soon as submitted by the Policy Unit co-leaders.

The Habitat III Policy Paper Framework template can be consulted at: [www.habitat3.org](http://www.habitat3.org)





## Main concepts

### The Right to the City as a Heart of New Urban Agenda

1. The Recognition of the Link Human Rights , Social Inclusion and Participatory Democracy with the Territory in the New Urban Agenda

The current urban development model has proven to fail in granting urban dwellers a good life. On the contrary, this model fosters financial profit and the commodification of the city to the benefit of a financial oligarchy and at the expense of the majority of the population. Some of the worst effects of the hegemonic urbanization pattern are the gentrification of traditional and popular neighbourhoods, the privatization of public spaces and basic services, spatial segregation of the urban poor and the use of governmental funds to promote major infrastructure projects which do not answer to people’s needs, but to economic interests. Despite the global policy commitments undertaken by the states and other key actors since Habitat I and Habitat II (Habitat Agenda), this trend has unfortunately deepened and will not change unless other values manage to embed urban politics at global, national and local level and influence the New Urban Agenda.

The New Urban Agenda must recognize the current patterns of urban development based on competitive cities; business attractiveness and “commodification of land and resulting speculation” are not able to create a sustainable model of social inclusion and are rather exclusion-generators.

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The New Urban Agenda need to emphasize affirms the necessary link between social inclusion, participatory democracy, and human rights with the territory to make inclusive, fair, democratic and sustainable cities.

2. The Comprehension of the City and Citizenship in the New Urban Agenda

Important premise to the New Urban Agenda is to understand the City as a culturally rich and diversified collective space that pertains to all of its inhabitants.

For the effects of the New Urban Agenda, the meaning of the concept of city is two-fold. For its physical character, the city is every metropolis, village, or town that is institutionally organized as territory unit with district, municipal or metropolitan character. It includes the urban space as well as the rural or semi-rural surroundings that form part of its territory.





As public space, the city is the whole of institutions and actors who intervene in its management, such as governmental authorities, legislative and judicial bodies, institutionalized social participation entities, social movements and organizations, and the community in general.

For the effects of the New Urban Agenda, all the persons who inhabit a city, whether permanently or transitionally must be considered its citizens. The citizenship are extended for the following groups considered vulnerable: persons or groups living in poverty or situations of environmental risk (threatened by natural disasters), victims of violence, persons with disabilities, forced migrants (displaced), refugees, and all groups living in disadvantaged situations with respect to the rest of the inhabitants, in accordance with each city's reality. In turn, priority attention should be addressed within these groups to the elderly, women (in particular female household heads), and children.

### 3. The Right to the City as a Heart of the New Urban Agenda

The range of human rights and the variety of forms should be recognized in a more holistic way in the New Urban Agenda mentioning and embracing the concept of the Right to the City, as a collective right for all inhabitants. In this context, the territories of the cities and their hinterlands are considered as spaces for the exercise and fulfillment of rights, in order to ensure that people have access to the resources, services, goods and opportunities that the city brings in a fair, universal, democratic and sustainable way. Therefore, the Right to the City must be the Heart of the New Urban Agenda in direction to build just, inclusive, democratic and sustainable cities.

The Right to the City is a new paradigm that provides an alternative framework to re-think cities and urbanization on the basis of the principles of social justice, equity, effective fulfilment of all human rights, responsibility towards nature and future generations, and local democracy. Contrary to the current urban model, it aims to build cities for people, not for profit. To that end, it pays special attention to marginalized groups and people living under vulnerable conditions (such as the urban poor, informal workers, ethnic groups, the handicapped, youth, women), traditionally excluded by urban policies and made invisible. Against this framework, the right to the city means, on the one hand, empowering urban dwellers and ensuring their capacity to have access to urban resources, services, goods and opportunities of city life; and on the other, it implies enabling effective citizen participation in local policies.

Some of the core components of this new urban paradigm are ensuring full exercise of citizenship of all urban dwellers; respect and protection of human rights for all; social function of land, property and the city; democratic, participatory and accountable management of cities; the right to socially produce the habitat and the city; inclusive economies seeking to foster urban dwellers' wellbeing; responsible and sustainable management of commons (natural, energy, historic and cultural assets); sufficient and accessible public spaces and community facilities;





polycentric cities in terms of services, job opportunities, leisure amenities and transport; the promotion of culture as a lever of social cohesion, social capital, self-expression and identity, memory and heritage; and a balanced and respectful relationship with the surrounding rural area and its natural resources. In terms of realization, it is important to highlight that the fulfilment of the right to the city calls for the strategic alliance of several key actors, such as citizens and their organizations, local and national governments, and the private sector.





## 1. Challenges: Identify challenges, including structural and policy constraints

### Urban Spatial strategies

Today's urbanization is not just about urban population growth, but essentially about fundamental changes in spatial (re)organisation of our settlement systems and human habitat based on growth logics. In particular, this strategy hierarchizes urban space by valorizing particular fragments of the territory. This is manifested, for example, in a deepening of center-periphery contradictions in urban systems, fragmentation of urban space/formation of islands of good quality of life, residential prestige and different advantages. Such uneven urban/spatial development translates into unequal conditions of everyday life and life changes for urban populations. It produces a situation in which the minority of more affluent people enjoys the benefits of urban life, while a majority experiences difficulties in satisfying their everyday needs.

#### 1.1. Urban form – right to access the benefits of city life:

- Polarized settlement systems, unequal access to opportunities and benefits from urban growth and development. Population and activities are concentrated in primary cities and urban cores. While these 'centers' provide engines of growth and improvelinks and complementarity among some cities, these concentrations inevitably lead to 'peripheralization', i.e. negatively affecting development prospects and opportunities for other settlements in urban and rural systems. These emerge into settlement systems.
- Rural-urban linkages. Rural and urban settlements are not only closely linked but undergo rapid multiple inter-related changes. However, rural and urban development issues are normally addressed by separate strategies. Towns and cities normally provide services and markets for residents of rural areas, while the latter's economy is important for towns and cities.
- Urban sprawls, emphasis on proximity of services
- Urban renewal and gentrification. Urban renewal programs often involve a controversial upgrade of existing urban and residential areas to accommodate the tastes of middle-/high-income groups and generate extra-profits. These processes are accompanied by displacement of/pricing out of the original residents, therefore destroying their communities. This



‘gentrification’ is often promoted by governments through public-private partnerships. In this way, existing socio-spatial inequalities are not mediated but further deepened.

- Increased fragmentation of urban space. Profit-oriented investor-led urban development strategies contribute to the fragmentation of urban space by delimiting, subdividing, enclosing and valorizing particular fragments of urban space, by creating, on the one hand, islands of residential wealth and prestige, and on the other abandonment and shortages of good quality urban spaces.
- Socially segregated cities. There is a noticeable trend towards socio-spatial segregation in cities, which is largely based on people’s ethnic, class, age or economic status. Perhaps, the most extreme form of this segregation is between the rich and poor. People with different socio-economic status are sorted (through private market mechanisms) across different neighborhoods, which provides different living conditions and social development opportunities while deepening social cleavages
- Problem of shrinking cities
- Diverse and socially integrated neighborhoods. The social mix approach to improving existing and/or develop new neighborhoods has been widely used, especially in the context of developed market economies. It normally aims to increase diversity and limit segregation. These strategies are however criticized for destroying rather than helping existing communities, and for not achieving social interaction in new developments.
- Forced evictions. It is important to prioritise women’s rights to housing through alternatives to evictions. Women need laws that would protect them from forced evictions
- Balance between urban development related to extension of metropolitan areas vs. smaller agglomerations
- Divided cities
- Integration of green infrastructure in cities
- Protection of peri-urban areas through the involvement of the women exchanging of knowledge is a priority policy for urban resilience
- Food security and expansion of cities



- Restriction of urban sprawl, particularly in environmentally sensitive areas
- Consolidation of central areas to limit city expansion

#### 1.2 Social function of land and housing – right to habitat

There is a need to ensure a continuum of affordable housing (including socially produced, community-led housing projects) Homeownership has been supported as the primary tenure mechanism through policies oriented at 'solvent demand' and private sector supply. Housing has thus been driven by private investments and provided a mechanism for wealth creation for affluent social groups. There is a need to accommodate the current housing needs through diverse housing tenure choices. The role taken by women in housing programmes must be spread at the local and national levels. The existence of innovative and successful experiences related to housing programmes led by women must be recognised by governments.

- Land property, capturing plus value, mixed-use urban planning
- Diversity, land tenure conditions

#### 1.3 Essential basic services and infrastructure

The coverage by basic infrastructure and services is very uneven. Large cities in general enjoy good quality infrastructure and services, although newly built residential areas within these cities become "isolated communities" without timely provision of infrastructure. The growth of major cities also puts a substantial pressure on their existing infrastructure, creating infrastructure shortages. Informal settlements, emerging alongside urbanisation, have no or very limited access to basic infrastructure, although small-scale affordable community-managed infrastructure projects are being implemented across the globe. Settlements at other levels of national settlement systems have limited scope of services and often degrading infrastructure.

#### 1.4. Public space – right to public space as a component of the urban commons

- Access to public commons, concern for the potential privatization of public space through municipal agreements that generate income
- Social and cultural expression of public space
- Role of public space in inclusion and equity





	<p>- Access to public spaces must promote a more wide definition that include from recreative to economic activities. Governments must also guarantee access and security for women and children.</p> <p><u>1.5 Mobility and accessibility</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Mobility, accessibility and proximity to services. It is necessary to improve the accessibility to infrastructure, particularly in the transport and public spaces realms.</li> <li>- Urban space and quality of mobility. There a need to increase private/public alternatives. There is a need to develop safe and regular transport systems, to guarantee access to employment, education, health and economic development.</li> <li>- Secure women's participation in the design, development, maintenance and use of public spaces and housing for elderly people</li> </ul>
<p>Urban governance: Rights to participatory urban governance and democratic self-management/self-governance</p>	<p><u>2.1 Mainstream local governance in sustainable urban development</u></p> <p>The Right to the City and Cities for All recognizes the role of urban dwellers, in particular vulnerable and marginalized groups, to directly make and shape the city. Part of this recognition goes beyond ensuring free and fair local government elections , and entails the meaningful participation of people in governance and local decision-making processes without discrimination. The right to the city recognizes the value of disagreement and debate, and enjoins all with the task of collectively shaping and making the city. In so doing, the city becomes a metaphor for democracy itself.</p> <p>The government of urban settings is highly complex. Such a complexity requires coordinated efforts and the involvement of different stakeholders including a central role for local or metropolitan governments. This entails coordinating across spheres of government, and networking with local stakeholders (the private sector, communities, etc.) in order to develop comprehensive policies.</p> <p><u>2.2 Governance models and structures</u></p> <p>Governance structures are the more formal spaces in which the making of the city takes place. They contribute in part to ensuring the making of a city is fair and just for all. They encompass the policies that guide the city, the legislation that governs the city, as well as democratic institutions in which claims to the Right to the City are made. Yet there are many structural barriers to enabling the Right to the City in urban governance:</p>



- Tendency to “top down” governance
- Lack of structures and spaces to support effective negotiation
- National, regional and local government do not sit together at key international forums, e.g. Habitat III.
- The challenges of open governance in large metropolitan areas
- Problems of integration, coordination, solidarity
- Delivery of effective multi-level governance
- Institutional fragmentation / weak institutions
- Lack of reflective practice skills in making policy and revising it
- The more limited capacity of poor urban dwellers, particularly disadvantaged groups, than some other stakeholders (i.e. corporations) to participate in governance processes

### 2.3 Participation and capacity building for urban actors

The Right to the City will bring about a consciousness of the city comprising multiple actors. These include elected officials and government officers, and also civil society, business, and individuals. Increasingly, national and international actors also play an important role in cities. Not all actors have an equal say in the city, and some may exert greater influence on the making of the city than others. Some contributions may have a positive impact; others may not.

Challenges to effective participation in urban processes are legion:

- Integrating the needs of multiple social actors, but giving priority to the needs of vulnerable and marginalized groups
- Embedding participatory processes in sustainable urban development
- Enabling private sector participation for collective benefit
- Supporting civil society participation (including NGO’s, grass roots groups, community)
- Fostering co-responsibility of participating actors
- Fragmentation of governance and disengagement from the social contract
- Need for capacity-building for governments in the key role and value of local/community initiatives



	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Promoting deliberative urban processes</li> </ul> <p><u>2.4. Transparency and accountability in urban development processes</u></p> <p>The golden thread that binds together actors and structures in the city are the processes that facilitate the shaping and making of the city. Processes should aim to humanize the city, and enable its opportunities.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Lack of transparency in both financial and political processes</li> <li>- Lack of inclusive and participatory strategic urban planning and policy-making</li> <li>- Lack of an integrated vision among government sectors and actors</li> <li>- Need for open and participatory policy-making</li> <li>- Lack of effective monitoring involving urban residents, especially vulnerable and marginalized groups</li> <li>- Planning not as abstract term but as a tool to answer population needs (social, economic, cultural, etc.)</li> <li>- Weak evidence base of social and demographic information for policy-making</li> <li>- Need for national system of social standards</li> <li>- Lack of information, accessibility, language</li> </ul>
<p>Urban economy: Economic rights as a core component of the right to the city</p>	<p>The realization of the Right to the City as a concept that recognizes the dignity of every human being is dependent on each and every person’s ability to enjoy the economic opportunities that cities have to offer. Yet the current urbanization model toward increased concentration of income, resources and power in cities has left large segments of the population excluded from the rewards and benefits of growth. Worldwide, 1.5 billion people currently live in multidimensional poverty. And many of them are employed: the International Labour Organization estimates that one third of all workers – around 839 million – cannot earn enough to lift themselves and their families out of poverty.</p> <p><u>3.1 Urban livelihoods</u></p> <p>Decent work and secure livelihoods are central to the concept of inclusive cities. Yet informal employment – including all workers who do not enjoy social protection through their work – accounts for half or more of total non-agricultural employment in developing</p>



regions. Informal livelihoods are devalued in urban planning and policymaking; women, young people and other vulnerable groups (eg: migrants and the handicapped) face significant barriers to entry; and solidarity economy principles are ignored in economic policy.

- Lack of decent work and secure livelihoods
- Lack of understanding residence as a coping strategy (especially for low-income groups) – e.g. slum residents may be cash-poor but may have remarkable resilience and resourcefulness embedded in social safety nets that support livelihoods skills and informal employment
- The combination of social and physical structures of slums offers additional support mechanisms – for example, proximity to jobs and markets, flexibility to extend shelters using their own labour, possibilities to carry out ground-level home-based work activities (such as trade, services, or small agricultural activities)
- Need to break the barriers of unemployment
- Lack of housing credit support for women householders
- Lack of programmes to foster entrepreneurial activities
- Lack of government support for grassroots led local housing programs with gender equity led by grassroots
- Lack of government support for local construction elements production with quality standards by trained population

### 3.2 Growth versus wellbeing

Urbanization models that privilege economic growth over human wellbeing undermines the Right to the City. Few existing economic development strategies avoid the negative consequences of growth – including displacement, environmental degradation, and social conflict, among others – and few prioritize human dignity, wellbeing, livelihoods and solidarity. Popular investments in homes, neighbourhoods and communities are undervalued relative to large-scale capital. The development of social capital (including education, employment and culture), especially in low-income urban areas, is disregarded as an engine for wellbeing.

- Conflict between economic growth model and wellbeing, realization of rights (space) focus should be on wellbeing
- Lack of public policies and financial investment in low-income urban areas to foster social capital
- De-linking of economic activities and territory
- Lack of acknowledgement of the potential of the solidarity economy and non-financial initiatives



- Little effort to take care of negative consequences of urbanization
- Safety and protection connected to urban economy
- Productive exploitation in the cities – green economy

### 3.3 De-commodification of space

The privatization, marketization and commodification of common goods and public spaces undermines collective rights to the city, particularly for the urban poor. Public policies in many contexts fail to recognize the urban commons as a fundamental component of the quality of life. Sustainable and equitable access to urban space as a key resource for lives and livelihoods remains limited.

- Control mechanisms, regulation, and monitoring of land use (e.g. in public space) that exclude poor urban workers
- Housing market (securing housing tenure and recognising the home as a place of work and income-generation)
- Land speculation (government-led speculation)
- Marketization of urban space linked to gentrification and economic growth
- Lack of recognition, understanding and valuation of popular investment in the urban commons
- Lack of recognition of the social production of space
- Privatization of public space (i.e. shopping malls, gated communities)
- Implementation of mega-projects that dehumanise the city and displace communities
- The prioritisation of historic districts and city centres as tourist sites

### 3.4 Poverty risk and employment vulnerabilities

Public policies that define or create neighbourhoods as poor – whether through intent or neglect – prevent the realization of basic rights to dignity and equality. The ghettoization of space is compounded by pervasive employment vulnerabilities among women, migrants, excluded racial and ethnic communities, and others whose voices and contributions to urban life are not well recognized.

Deficits in physical safety and security in certain urban areas compound these vulnerabilities. Challenges include:

- Economic empowerment of women in labour markets
- Delinking of the informal economy from social protection
- Devaluation of informal economies and livelihoods



	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Capacity building for community employment</li> <li>- Bias against women's and migrant economies</li> <li>- Lack of job opportunities for young people in low-income and marginalized urban areas</li> <li>- Lack of employment programmes for the handicapped</li> </ul>
<p>Social aspects: Rights to safety, security and well-being</p>	<p>The city is not only a material entity (streets, squares, buildings...), but above all a social construct, embracing: relationships, encounters, interactions, diversities, collective imaginaries, and shared meanings. The social aspect of the Right to the City and Cities for All reflects the social dimension of inclusion; it locates the individual within a social context. It highlights identity and heritage along with gender, youth, ageing, disability, migration, and refugee status. It encompasses issues of culture, neighbouring and stake-holding. This focus is premised on the view that human interaction and/or social exchange are important global issues that need to be part of the urban agenda. It is also a recognition of the growing diversity of the city; making the urban space a contested arena. The social aspect appreciates that the question of identity – self and other – has become challenging and requires new collective responses. It is a recognition of the fact that promotion of social integration, social harmony and social cohesion are important values which are played out in the social arena. Four focus areas are proposed, and the challenges in each are outlined below:</p> <p><u>4.1 Welfare and well-being</u></p> <p>The Right to the City establishes an understanding of well-being as central to recognising and tackling the persistent and multi-dimensional nature of urban poverty in developed and developing countries. Three core dimensions of well-being include: meeting universal human needs; achieving socially meaningful goals in different cultural, social and economic contexts, and increasing happiness and quality of life. Challenges include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Erosion of the the urban commons</li> <li>- Limited access to leisure, sports and recreation facilities for young and old urban populations, especially in poor urban areas</li> <li>- Framing and enshrining the value of human life (e.g. protecting low-income urban dwellers such as the deseatables, waste recyclers in Colombia)</li> <li>- Tackling social inequality and justice.</li> </ul>



- Insecure access to housing, education, culture and social services
- Lack of acknowledgment of the productive and reproductive contributions of the informal sector
- Lack of public amenities and infrastructure supporting community socialization
- Hazards related to urban and housing development (different aspects of health and safety)
- Cities are hostile to people who are disabled and the elderly (eg: public spaces, public transportation, public buildings etc.)

#### 4.2 Identity, culture and heritage

Cultural heritage, identity and diversity are the common heritage of humanity, and a source of identity, exchange, innovation and creativity, central to the Right to the City, and integral to the richness and quality of modern urban life. Culture is defined through various international conventions to include both built heritage and artefacts, and also the intangible heritage of practices, representations, expressions, knowledge, skills, and the associated instruments, objects, artefacts and cultural spaces communities recognize as part of their cultural heritage .

- Erosion of heritage and cultural identities
- Lack of landscape approach to urban problems
- Need to support cultural diversity and visibility
- Pressures from internal and regional migration
- Need to enhancing cultural expression through public policies
- Lack of acknowledging the role of public space in fostering art and culture, and in boosting diversity
- Limited accessibility and affordability of cultural amenities and activities.
- Need to foster community-based cultural and artistic initiatives

#### 4.3 Violence and segregation – right to a safe and secure living environment

The right to safety and security is a key dimension of the Right to the City, but is undermined by on-going crime and violence in cities, disproportionately affecting vulnerable populations, particularly women and girls. In more extreme fragile or conflict-affected settings, cities may witness failures of local government, a collapse of local services and economies, resulting in increasing insecurity, poverty



	<p>and hunger. The challenges lack of security in cities are immense:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Lack of safety in cities, particularly for women and girls</li> <li>- Discrimination against women</li> <li>- Ghettoization and territorial segregation of urban space,</li> <li>- The rise in policy-defined neighbourhood (re-evaluation of the definition of black neighbourhoods as poor)</li> <li>- Lack of acknowledgement of urban violence and criminality</li> <li>- Increase of public violence against women</li> <li>- Social isolation and alienation, neighbouring and otherness</li> <li>- Hostility towards migrants, refugees and IPDs</li> <li>- The impacts of violent conflict in cities</li> <li>- Unsafe neighbourhoods associated with social problems, eg: school dropouts, juvenile delinquency etc.</li> <li>- Children exposed to violence are more likely to become victims or perpetrators of violence</li> <li>- Unsafe neighbourhoods associated with social problems</li> <li>- Exposure of children exposed to violence</li> <li>- Unsafe public transport, particularly at night</li> <li>- Lack of (sufficient) public lighting in poor areas</li> <li>- Prejudice against the urban poor or ethnic groups as perpetrators of crimes</li> </ul>
<p>Environmental aspects and resilience – rights to environmental protection</p>	<p><u>5.1 Air quality and noise pollution</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Pollution as a challenge for metropolitan areas</li> </ul> <p><u>5.2 Water management and waste management</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Environmental quality of water for communities Infrastructure water service secure the women and children safety with sanitation as priority</li> <li>- Protection of the water catchment area</li> <li>- Protection and management of water cycle</li> </ul>





- Recycling
- Acknowledge responsibility for disposal of hazardous waste

#### 5.3 Climate change, disaster and risk management and protection of risk areas

- Building urban resilience
- How we deal with natural disasters, build resilience. Training process in Disaster Risk Reduction and Climate Change Adaptation as well must be a priority for people who live in vulnerable areas
- Acknowledge and diminish heat island effect
- Relocation from vulnerable areas to prevent disasters. The government need to pay attention to the vulnerable areas with the implementation of seismic and resistant construction programmes to prevent disasters
- Training process in Disaster Risk Reduction and Climate Change Adaptation as well must be a priority for people who live in vulnerable areas
- Recognition from the state and local government for the role of the women as facilitators in disaster prevention programmes

#### 5.4 Energy consumption

- Production and consumption models / alternatives to reduce fossil fuels
- Alternative mobility
- Energy-efficient housing

Housing takes a quarter of the global operational energy demand by using energy to support daily activities within homes (e.g. space and water heating and cooling, cooking, lighting etc.). While this energy use is essential, millions do not have access to clean, or afford sufficient quantities of, energy and experience “energy poverty”.

#### 5.5 Construction impact

- Green buildings and alternative technologies to be used according to the location of the construction area.



	<p>- Impact of construction systems on the environment. The production of prefabricated construction elements locally using natural resources without pollution problems must be a priority to take into account for construction programmes at the local and national level.</p> <p><u>5.6 Protection of ecosystems and biodiversity</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Management of natural resources</li> <li>- Safeguard agricultural areas</li> <li>- Protection and expansion of green reserved space. Forested areas</li> </ul>
<p><b>2. Priorities:</b> Identify the policy priorities &amp; critical issues for implementation of a new urban agenda</p>	
<p>Urban Spatial strategies</p>	<p><u>1.1 Urban form – right to access the benefits of city life</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• To develop planning policy mechanisms that deter urban sprawl</li> <li>• To deter the development of new ‘smart/mega cities’ that are not connected to existing urban opportunities and services.</li> <li>• To restrict the development of mega-projects and sporting events that displace the urban poor</li> <li>• To ensure that neighborhood renewal programs are monitored and assessed (with community involvement) with respect to gentrification pressure; set up positive actions for urban renewal and regeneration of cities in the private sector. Indicators of gentrification (data that documents the level of displacement and the fate of displacees).</li> <li>• To promote positive urban actions (incentives) for densification in urban areas, to favor development in the inner city</li> <li>• To promote high quality interventions to re-signify new centralities (to give proximity of services)</li> <li>• To monitor and manage urban expansion in peri-urban land. The people located in periurban areas with strong problems of vulnerability must have the government supporting to feel secure living in safe areas</li> </ul>



### 1.2 Urban planning and practice – right to participatory and inclusionary urban planning

- To invest in innovative urban planning solutions that would address the existing challenges without infringing on the rights of the urban dwellers (acknowledge that old planning standards and approaches have had limitations hence the current status in urban areas especially in developing countries)
  - To promote urban mobility and public transport that enables access to the city for all
  - Ensure spatial strategies towards balanced (polycentric) systems of urbanized regions (growth poles) are balanced with the development of polycentric networks of small and intermediate settlements that normally constitute a backbone of national settlement and regional systems.
  - To promote integrated policies and strategies among different government sectors for planning instruments and decisions
  - To ensure participatory processes for all urban inhabitants. The participatory processes together with the sensitizing are the key to secure a good participation of the inhabitants in the training processes
  - To include the gender dimension in all urban planning and policies. The women participation in all levels of development process must be recognised for the authorities and to emphasize the solutions to the environmental problems, appropriate technologies for the climate and the using of local materials and technologies
- To invest in assessment processes in communities, neighborhood, local authorities, ministries to have the adequate information and disaggregated by sex, data to map demands and needs and to support decisions.
- To support policies that make data available and open to the population via technology and internet
  - To enable the development of locally-owned community-driven data
  - To maintain transparency about projects, actions, allocated and executed budgets defined for implementation
  - To support community-led urban housing and infrastructure development processes
  - To support community-led and innovative slum-upgrading. The organization of the community and the empowerment after built their capacities is the key to start the development process in the communities
  - To promote policies that integrates information of different sectors within the city
  - To promote policies to attract development in small and medium size cities. The policies of the late and strengthen the policies and practices that promote the equally and women participation in the planning and decisión making of human settlements



material

- To secure the women participation in all the levels of development process and to emphasize the solutions to the environmental problems, appropriate technologies for the climate and the using of local materials and technologies

### 1.3 Social function of land and housing – right to habitat

- To reform the property rights regime where private ownership results in exclusion by recognizing and supporting the social function of property and a diversity of land tenure systems
- To enshrine the right to adequate housing in policy and legislative frameworks
- To establish standards for adequate housing through community driven processes that ensure people’s dignity and access to basic services.
- To enact policy and legal frameworks that protect against forced evictions
- To ensure that the judiciary supports the ability of individuals and communities to challenge forced evictions. The implementation of laws to protect the population against evictions must be a priority to stop forc  evictions that affect the life of the women, children and elderly principally. From 30 to 50 million of inhabitants suffer of evictions and suffer of the lack of law implementation to stop evictions
- To enact legislation that ensures that increases in land value through planning are captured and redistributed toward social housing and public space provision
- To recognize the social function of property and the urban commons, for housing, employment and other urban activities. Despite the population demonstrated with examples that solve the housing problem in construction for the poor. The government do not recognise these practices and the budget for housing is going to the middle class.
- To promote instruments in order to correct, provide incentives and enforce the social function of land and the urban commons
- To promote measures to protect the population, particularly women headed households from evictions. The women is the more affected for the evictions for this reason the women need of the implementation of a law to protect them and their children from forced evictions.



- To recognize and promote diverse and secure types and systems of land tenure for social purposes. The women form organizations at national level to be heard by the government and solve the land and housing problems access in the communities living more than 20 years without legal sanitation. The women built tools and strategies to advocate for their rights. Now the women started to work in the design of a law proposal to protect them from evictions due to this is a global problem that affect them.
  - To design instruments to identify empty and sub-utilized properties (land, buildings)
  - To promote instruments and strategies to recover and acquire those properties for social urban purposes
  - To promote the social diversity and mixed use of land and buildings to promote compact cities
  - To strengthen State housing policies. To link housing to cities, and cities to housing and quality of life.
  - To promote diverse ways to access housing (property, rent, leasing, cooperatives, social production of the housing, others)
  - To promote diverse ways to ensure access to employment (eg: managed use of public space, space sharing etc.)
  - To promote the dissemination of innovative housing programs that benefit low income people.
  - To ensure the components of the right to adequate housing to guide interventions
  - To provide housing options in locations that allow citizens to remain close to existing social networks and city services
  - To provide housing options with diverse and flexible typologies that allow families to evolve and alter their property
  - To promote positive actions for women headed households and other groups as elderly, handicapped, youth, others
  - To promote housing groups in consolidated areas of the city
  - To recognize and support the capacity for social production of habitat of local populations communities and neighborhood. The trained population have the capacity to start a housing programme themselves and demonstrate the government that they can change their situation of life. The government need to recognise the work made by the trained population and give them the opportunity to change the development of the communities.
- To improve housing schemes promoting the densification of services and infrastructure, including informal settlements
- To promote alternative sustainable housing productions respectful of cultural patterns
  - To mitigate the effects of high land value in social housing programs associated with improving localization and avoiding the extension of urban areas



#### 1.4 Public space – right to public space as a component of the urban commons

- To develop a community driven knowledge base of existing public space and the urban commons
- To develop policy on public space and the urban commons and promote universal access for all to such spaces
- To integrate green infrastructure into urban planning visions and priorities
- To prevent the privatization of public space
- To recognize the role of public space for social cohesion
- To enable municipalities to provide better public spaces and uses particularly for the elderly, children and women (sex division of labor, caring role of women)
- To plan adequate and quality public space in city extensions and city infill.
- To project adequate and quality public spaces in participatory slum upgrading projects.
- To recognize public space as an expression of social and cultural collective participation and use.
- To recognize public spaces as assets in urban development and stimuli for culture and diversity.
- To develop public spaces as integrated systems in the urban tissue.
- To recognize urban public spaces as capable of incorporating different uses and functions and include and consider the situation of street dwellers and street vendors, not to evict them. The government must consider the location of Street vendors in safe areas for selling and give rules not to use the streets for selling
- To assure the safety and quality of the public spaces, particularly free of violence against women and youth.
- To design public spaces considering diversity to ensure inclusiveness, safety and resilience. It is important to include the women in the design process of public spaces due to they can contribute with their information about the problems of violence happens in the communities. The women also will participate with ideas how to maintain the public spaces safe and free of different kind of violence.
- To involve the public in the design, planning and management of public spaces.
- To create safe, inclusive and accessible public spaces for all through public action, participation and partnerships.



1.5 Violence and segregation – right to a safe and secure living environment

- To address social exclusion and urban violence through partnerships between communities and local governments.
- To address spatial segregation through participatory urban planning processes.
- To promote positive actions to avoid gentrification
- To address the particular problems of violence and insecurity women and girls face in cities. The women need the support of the government with the implementation of laws to protect them from different kind of violence
- To recognize that the cause for most urban violence is unequal urban development which results in exclusion and creates vulnerable and marginalized urban inhabitants.

1.6 Right to mobility and accessibility

- To ensure connectivity and accessibility in low income housing schemes that are integrated with the urban tissue and urban common
- To balance the infrastructure of transport linked to other services in the city fabric
- To promote safer walking and cycling in support of wider urban health goals
- To promote bike paths and green corridors
- To promote public transport over private
- To assure public transport that is affordable, secure and free from violence for women and children.
- To recognize and promote diverse modes of mobility, pedestrian, public transportation, bicycles, and cars.
- To incorporate affirmative actions to integrate public transportation with non-motorized modes of transportation
- To develop and promote positive actions to stimulate the non-motorized transport.
- This is a measure that protect the environment from pollution problems that affect the health of inhabitants. In this way the contribution will be positive due to contribute in the protection of the environment, the noise and air



	<p><u>1.7 Right to access essential basic services and infrastructure</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• To ensure access to balanced infrastructure and services for the whole population.</li> <li>• To promote social infrastructure and public facilities and services particularly in low-income neighborhoods.</li> <li>• To ensure proximity to services in neighborhoods and communities, particularly for care givers: child care, primary schools, health centers, daily provision of foods, others. The role of the women play daily in the communities is very hard specially the women located in vulnerable areas like the women who live up on the hills. In mostly of the cases the women do not have stairs to go up in the hills to their home and this is a strong problem they need to confront.</li> <li>• To acknowledge that proximity to urban services does not mean accessibility hence the need for policies that enhance urban poor access for a majority.</li> </ul> <p><u>1.8 Cultural practice, identity and heritage</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Recognize culture as the fourth pillar of sustainable development</li> <li>• To promote investment for the preservation of cultural heritage.</li> <li>• To develop and recognize the common good inherent in heritage, that could be private; state should develop policies to maintain heritage.</li> <li>• To recognize and respect language as an expression of diversity</li> <li>• To recognize the city as a construct of the natural and built environment</li> <li>• To consider the protection and promotion of cultural and natural heritage as a form of sustainable development in local communities.</li> <li>• To develop instruments ranging from legal protection to an effective preservation policy for public and private heritage</li> </ul>
<p>Urban governance: Rights to participatory</p>	<p><u>2.1 Mainstream local governance in sustainable urban development</u></p> <p>Key transformations:</p> <p>Establish the Right to the City as a new urban paradigm aiming to humanize cities, constituted as a local political community, to ensure adequate living conditions and peaceful coexistence between peoples and with government, and recognize the central role and</p>





urban governance and democratic self-management/self-governance

responsibility of local government in the promotion, protection and guarantee of human rights.

Policy recommendations:

- Enable the meaningful participation of local government in the Habitat III processes and in UN bodies dealing with urban issues.
- Support self-organization in the form of local initiatives (e.g. actors engaged in Local Agenda 21, community boards, local strategic committees), to ensure their consideration and inform national, regional and urban development policies.
- Promote the Right to the City through dialogue platforms, component rights (e.g. the right to adequate housing), programmatic rights (e.g. city charters) and legal rights (e.g. constitutional rights).

#### 2.2 Governance models and structures

Key transformations:

Ensure that governance structures are accessible, incorporate a rights-based approach to city-making, and facilitate a genuine dialogue between local government and people.

Policy recommendations:

- Develop learning practices and knowledge databases regarding the governance of metropolitan areas, medium-sized and small cities and recognize their contribution to equitable development.
- Enact multi-level policies and legislation that enables the integration of governance and services across different levels and entities of government rooted in the principles of subsidiarity, local autonomy and genuine partnership.
- Create metropolitan political bodies to coordinate policies between different local governments belonging to the same metropolitan area
- Promote strong, capable and financially sound local governments, supported by sustainable revenue generation.
- Support the capacity of local government in creating inclusive and sustainable cities



### 2.3 Participation and capacity building for urban actors

Key transformations:

Create space for a multiplicity of voices to be heard where views are discussed in joint, democratic making of a city for all.

Policy recommendations:

- Establish and protect spaces and institutional structures that effectively support negotiation between governments and civil society actors.
- Create an environment that allows for the proactive participation of a multiplicity of actors in the shaping of cities and human settlements.
- Develop a social contract that explicitly promotes the participation of civil society in the making of a city.
- Support broad partnerships in local governance, through innovations including co-production of services and public goods, public-private-community partnerships, and integrating the informal sector into urban management and service provision.
- Support the capacity of local government to create inclusive and sustainable cities
- Embrace and build on the strategic role and sustainable value of community initiatives.
- Ensure social participation in deliberative policy-making, implementation and monitoring
- Develop mechanisms so that disadvantaged urban residents can influence local politics.
- Enable local government to lead reconstruction processes in fragile and crisis-affected states.

### 2.4 Transparency and accountability in urban (development processes)

Key transformations:

Broader notions of accountability, transparency, and access to information are embedded and integral to the making and shaping of the city.



	<p>Policy recommendations:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Promote and monitor the implementation of component elements of the ‘right to city’ through appropriate indicators</li> <li>• Promote transparency in financial, administrative and political governance processes.</li> <li>• Promote integrated visions across government sectors and actors</li> <li>• Promote participatory and inclusive urban planning processes</li> <li>• Promote innovative governance processes through (a) improved access to government-generated information, (b) support of community-led information generation, and (c) use of new technologies to generate and disseminate information.</li> <li>• Promote a culture of transparency in public administrations</li> </ul>
<p>Urban economy: Economic rights as a core component of the right to the city</p>	<p><u>3.1. Urban livelihoods</u></p> <p>Key transformations: The creation and protection of decent work and secure livelihoods for all, with equal access to social protection and full recognition of the positive contributions of all livelihoods and the activities that support livelihoods.</p> <p>Policy recommendations:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Acknowledge that employment creation is fundamental to sustainable urban development</li> <li>• Acknowledge the linkage between good urban planning and employment creation. Poor urban planning can result into ineffective economic multipliers, low productivity, weak investment, and slow job creation</li> <li>• Establish and implement the constitutional right to work.</li> <li>• Develop policies and enact legislation that protects and promotes decent work and secure livelihoods in both the formal and informal economies.</li> <li>• Develop policies and enact legislation that protects existing urban livelihoods.</li> <li>• Effectively protect all urban workers from evictions, harassment and discrimination at their work place.</li> <li>• Enact legislation and develop policies that protect employment rights and safe, secure working environments.</li> <li>• Protect the right of every worker to association and to establish statutory collective bargaining and negotiation forums.</li> </ul>



- Develop new spatial city forms to promote decent job creation, well connected urban areas with higher density; that integrate work and residence, reduce transport costs and facilitate job creation.
- Acknowledged and foster the solidarity economy and “other economies”
- Protect and foster the right to work of women, and marginalized groups.

### 3.2 Growth versus wellbeing

Key transformations:

The formulation and implementation of development strategies that prioritize human wellbeing and inclusive economies.

Policy recommendations:

- Prioritize well-being, decent work and a living wage over economic growth through local and national indicators and policies
- Address the negative consequences of economic growth.
- Prioritize long-term, sustainable economic strategies.
- Recognise that urbanization in developing countries is characterised by growth in urban informal economies .
- Foster a human scale urbanism (developing districts with job, education, health and culture opportunities to minimise the need to travel).

### 3.3 De-commodification of space

Key transformations:

Prevent marketization of the urban commons and the commodification of public goods

Policy recommendations:

- Enact legislation that controls land value speculation so as to ensure an affordable housing and land market for all.
- Develop organizational and legal structures as well as institutional and financial instruments (e.g. alternative banks, solidarity credit systems and funds) that promote alternative non-speculative housing and property development models (community



land trusts, limited equity coops etc.)

- Recognize the role of housing as a source of work, both in construction and for home-based work with gender equity
- Integrate the informal sector into mainstream urban planning systems by including the voice of informal workers in all phases of urban planning
- Acknowledge and foster the social production of space.
- De-privatize public spaces (eg: in gated communities, prioritize squares rather than shopping malls...)
- Foster mixed uses of urban space.

#### 3.4 Poverty risk, and employment vulnerabilities

Key transformations:

The prioritization and recognition of work and enterprise, both formal and informal, as the fundamental pathway out of poverty.

Policy recommendations:

- Create enabling environments for small and micro-enterprise development
- Prioritize youth employment and legitimize youth “own-account” work as meaningful
- Reduce barriers to employment
- Support and promote women’s economic empowerment by targeting gender-specific barriers
- Develop specific employment policies for young people and other disadvantaged groups
- Recognize the economic and cultural contributions and potential of the migrant and refugee economies
- Pass laws protecting labour rights of migrants
- Recognize the economic and employment contributions as well as the potential of informal economies
- Recognize the potential of the solidarity economy and “the other economies”
- Strengthen data collection to promote evidence based-policy on job creation, including through better collection of social indicators disaggregated by geography, age and sex by local, national and global urban observatories.



<p>Social aspects: Rights to safety, security and well-being</p>	<p><u>4.1 Welfare and well-being</u></p> <p>Key transformations: Enshrine the concept of well-being at the heart of social and poverty-reduction programmes that aim to meet basic needs and increase human happiness and quality of life.</p> <p>Policy recommendations:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Uphold the right to dignity and equality of all persons in their claim to the Right to the City</li><li>• Promote equal access to good quality social services including health, education, culture and leisure</li><li>• Tackle social inequality through integrated programmes</li><li>• Frame and enshrine the value of human life in urban policies</li><li>• Develop public amenities, infrastructure supporting community socialization</li><li>• Put people needs and experiences at the centre of urbanism</li><li>• Provide settings for leisure activities</li></ul> <p><u>4.2 Safer cities</u></p> <p>Key transformations: Combat violence, gender, racial, religious and all other forms of discrimination, ensure day-to-day security, and foster community support in urban populations.</p> <p>Policy recommendations:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Create, strengthen and promote shared opportunities for safe, healthy and secure communities</li><li>• Address the conditions that foster urban violence; to ensure justice and fairness in contexts of violence; and to provide social support for communities and people affected by violence</li><li>• Adopt a multi-level, multi-sectoral approach to address the root causes of crime and violence</li><li>• Combat all forms of violence against women and vulnerable groups</li><li>• Establish neighbourhood and community-based approaches in which communities take ownership of initiatives to reduce</li></ul>
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crime

- Reduce risk factors by focussing on the needs of groups most likely to be victims and perpetrators of crime
- Ensure accessible and safe public space and public transport as a key to building safer cities
- Fight prejudice against the urban poor and ethnic groups as perpetrators of crime
- Provide job opportunities, education and access to culture for young people as a means to fight urban violence.

#### 4.3 Identity, culture and heritage

Key transformations:

Celebrate diversity in the multicultural city, protecting tangible and intangible cultural heritage, and the distinct identities of urban communities. Foster urban art and culture as a means to develop new collective imaginaries and new urban futures.

Policy recommendations:

- Celebrate and foster diverse and multicultural cities in all their manifestations
- Protect and enhance the built, cultural and intangible heritage of cities
- Policy recognition that enhancing cultural diversity is a powerful way to mitigate urban conflicts, foster tolerance, preserve social fabrics and promote pluralism
- Promote culturally-sensitive development processes to build resilient and inclusive cities
- Social and cultural inclusion of migrants, refugees and IDPs as rights-holders, contributors and partners in the development of cities.
- Develop a sense of ownership of public spaces by all groups of urban dwellers as settings for urban art and cultural expression

#### 4.4 Democratization of data

Key transformations:

Recognise the powerful potential of co-production of knowledge through legitimising communities in accessing and generating data



	<p>Policy recommendations:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Establish mechanisms for monitoring modes of data gathering, tabulation and dissemination</li> <li>• Create mechanisms to ensure the open accessibility and usability of data</li> <li>• Promote co-production of knowledge through community-led knowledge generation</li> </ul>
<p>Environmental aspects and resilience – rights to environmental protection</p>	<p><u>5.1 Air quality and noise pollution</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Provide incentives for people to access vehicles that use alternative clean energy</li> <li>• Provide incentives for carpooling</li> <li>• Create policies for densification in central areas to diminish travel distance and increase walking and bicycle use</li> <li>• Promote non-motorized transportation</li> <li>• Provide better conditions for public transportation</li> <li>• To acquire more clean energy, public transportation vehicles (buses, metrocable, metro) to reduce fossil fuel emissions</li> <li>• Provide incentives to reduce air contamination by private industry</li> <li>• Eliminate use of ozone depleting refrigerants</li> </ul> <p><u>5.2 Water management and waste management</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Develop comprehensive integrated urban management strategies including coordination of local authorities with the territorial scale of water basins</li> <li>• Encourage increased waste water (sewage) treatment</li> <li>• Protect and conserve water sources</li> <li>• Extend community based sanitation and ensure 100% coverage of services</li> <li>• Ensure the quality of water infrastructure</li> <li>• Increase and ensure soil porosity to reduce flash flooding and replenish aquifers</li> <li>• Responsible use of vegetation, preference for indigenous vegetation species</li> <li>• Promote recycling of gray waters</li> </ul>





- Promote measures to reduce consumption
- Industries and mining must have in situ waste management capabilities to mitigate their pollution
- Include policy to tax water used for industrial and commercial purposes
- Promote installation of water metering to promote reduction in consumption
- Introduction of differentiated water tariff depending on consumption
- Strengthen community based management and control of water metering and quality
- Energy efficiency for housing, for industry, transportation

#### 5.3 Waste management

- To recognize unsustainable models of production and consumption and create policy to incentivize more responsible use of resources
- Strengthen community based initiatives for waste management
- Ensure proper landfill management with provisions for extraction for second cycle
- Encourage and incentivize extraction of secondary materials from municipal waste

#### 5.4 Climate change disaster and risk management and protection of risk areas

- Update city infrastructure to withstand natural and anthropic risk.
- To recognize and protect risk areas in the urban context The women demonstrate their capacity with their involvement in disaster risk reduction programmes to prevent disasters. The government must recognise it work making alliances and work together including the work in the local and national programmes to protect the vulnerable areas from disasters
- To recognize and mitigate eminent risk in coastal cities due to rising sea level. To recognize and mitigate eminent risk in coastal cities due to rising sea level. The way how the mitigation is possible will be the starting of a resilient process to prevent disasters with the application of a methodology to implement in the vulnerable communities
- Capacity building for local communities to face natural disaster and climate change. The training process in Disaster Risk Reduction Programmes to the population is a priority to prevent disaster and save the live of the inhabitants
- Recognize changes in construction and infrastructure requirements translated into codified requirements



- To recognize and promote the role of green infrastructure in mitigating disasters
- Empower local authorities in decision making in the face of natural disaster. The local authorities need to be sensitized before to empower due to mostly of them are not identified with the problem of disasters
- Recognition of latent and potential risks and strengthen security measures
- Development and enforcement of building standards related to resilience, fire protection, earthquakes, floods

#### 5.5 Energy consumption

- Promote strategies to make alternative energy production more accessible
- Promote research to improve alternative energy possibilities to increase coverage and lower cost
- Set bench marks to reduce and eliminate fossil fuel consumption
- Replace bio-mass consumption with cleaner energy alternatives
- Reduce mining and gas industry pollution
- Promote diverse forms of energy generation near cities

#### 5.6 Construction impact

- Promote policies to reduce the environmental impact of construction industries (energy, waste and water consumption)
- Develop construction codes according to climatic conditions (promote passive energy strategies)
- Promote recycling in construction processes and diverging waste from landfills through reuse
- Encourage use of regional materials and technologies, locally made techniques, and local building typologies. The use of materials depends on the region is located the community. The use of appropriate technologies reduces the cost in construction. The trained population is able to start a housing programme using alternative construction technologies. The government must recognize the local work made by the trained population (women and men)

#### 5.7 Protection of ecosystems and biodiversity

- To value and recover the continuity of ecosystems and green biological corridors
- To value gardens and informal edge spaces as part of the ecosystem network

