

Open-Ended Informal Consultative Meetings

Panel on Urban Spatial Strategies: Land Market and Segregation
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ACHIEVING SUSTAINABLE URBAN DEVELOPMENT

After thirty years, the best definition of sustainable development remains the one from the 1987
"Our Common Future" report:

"Sustainable development is development that meets the needs of the present without compromising the ability of future generations to meet their own needs" "This definition contains within it two key concepts:

- THE CONCEPT OF **NEEDS** in particular the essential needs of the world's poor, to which overriding priority should be given;
- THE IDEA OF LIMITATIONS imposed by the state of technology and social organization on the environment's ability to meet present and future needs."

Policy Unit 6's work has focused on how to achieve this goal through

the SPATIAL DIMENSION OF DEVELOPMENT

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THE VISION: PUBLIC SPACE

Literally, public space is about the PUBLIC organizing SPACE in the interest of present and future generations.

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THE TOOL: PLANNING

Sound planning IS THE ART OF TRANSFORMING SPACE INTO SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT - ensuring adequate living conditions for all while saving land, energy, money.

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THE RESOURCES: LAND

The urbanization of land is the way to generate the financial resources needed for public investment in sustainable urban and territorial development.

THREE GUIDING QUESTIONS:

- 1. Why is spatial planning so neglected when we speak about sustainable development?
- 2. Isn't it about time for a public space-led approach to urbanization?
- 3. Why is land so often used to create inequality and segregation instead of being a resource for public investment?