




Summary of Training Events



TUESDAY, 18 OCTOBER

TRAINING EVENT 1: International guidelines on urban and territorial planning: Handbook and tools for localisation

OVERVIEW: This training introduced participants to the International Guidelines on Urban and Territorial Planning (IG-UTP) and an accompanying handbook, currently in progress, to guide practitioners in implementing its principles. **Lead:** UN-Habitat. **Partners:** International Society Of City And Regional Planners (ISOCARP).

SUMMARY: One of the key challenges facing cities today is the coordination of different levels of governance, from cities and municipalities to provincial governments and villages. As the New Urban Agenda (NUA) repeatedly articulates, there is an urgent need for a territorial management system to balance the interconnected and sometimes competing interests of urban, metropolitan and rural areas. This approach will also help ensure that urban growth respects ecological systems and promotes equitable development for all.

The IG-UTP outlines these principles and provides clear guidelines on how they should be achieved. However, these universal standards then need to be adapted by urban development practitioners into local planning contexts. To support this process, UN-Habitat is developing a series of tools and indicators to provide users with the necessary information and resources to realise these objectives in practice. This includes a handbook that, once finalised, will serve as a resource for stakeholders to assess local planning regimes and evaluate the adoption of the IG-UTP's framework into their own context.

This training event, led by the Head of ISOCARP, Dr Shipra Narang Suri, showcased the IG-UTP principles to participants and presented the latest version of the handbook. This demonstrated how these guidelines could be effectively implemented by planners at a local level. The inputs from this session and other stakeholder platforms will help inform the final draft of the handbook.


IMPLEMENTATION: This collaborative training session not only strengthened the capacity of participants to reorient their local planning systems in line with IG-UTP principles, but also allowed them to contribute their own views to inform the final design of the handbook and other tools. This will help lay the foundation for an informative, accessible resource that will greatly strengthen the capacity of local authorities and communities to apply international best practices to their own planning systems.


TRAINING EVENT 2: Monitoring the New Urban Agenda with the Global Human Settlement Layer

OVERVIEW: This training introduced the newly developed Global Human Settlement Layer, a rich resource of tools and statistical information that provides an authoritative picture of the current state of urbanisation worldwide. **Lead:** European Commission - Joint Research Centre.

SUMMARY: The Global Human Settlement Layer is a framework developed with the support of the EU, the DG Joint Research Centre, DG Regional Development and the GEO Human Planet Initiative. Bringing together vast amounts of diverse data, including satellite imagery, census figures and geographic information, it then processes this material into clear and accessible indicators on population growth, urban expansion and other issues.

This resource provides policy makers, researchers and planners with a unique tool to model risks and trends in cities, including exposure to natural disasters, the impacts of human activities on sensitive environments, the degree to which settlements are connected and access to resources. These insights are crucial in guiding





evidence-based, forward looking urban policies and ensuring appropriate measures – for example, emergency preparedness and infrastructure development – are in place.

Led by Alice Siragusa (Italy's National Institute of Urbanism) and Thomas Kemper (European Commission Joint Research Centre), the training guided participants through this new open platform resource and demonstrated how it could be applied to research, policy-making and planning. It also included practical examples of the ways this data could be utilised in future to access progress towards the NUA and the post-2015 development agenda.

IMPLEMENTATION: The training provided participants with the skills and knowledge to use the Global Human Settlement Layer's datasets and use them to assess a variety of urbanisation patterns across the world. This new resource will serve as a foundation for the more informed, evidence-based approach to urban management championed in the NUA.

WEDNESDAY, 19 OCTOBER

TRAINING EVENT 3: Participatory climate planning – Integrating traditional and community-based knowledge with climate science

OVERVIEW: This training, focused on smaller cities and secondary urban environments, provided policy makers and practitioners with an overview of how to adopt local climate change perspectives into urban planning. **Lead:** RMIT University Australia.


SUMMARY: UN-Habitat's *Planning for Climate Change: A Strategic, Values-Based Approach for Urban Planners* provides a wealth of research methods, assessment frameworks, indicators and other resources to facilitate a participatory, community-based approach to climate change adaptation. Besides offering guidelines on capacity building and training, it provides a range of urban stakeholders with a toolkit for designing effective planning responses to climate change.


Drawing on some of the material in this publication, Alexei Trundle (RMIT University) and Professor Darryn McEvoy (RMIT University) delivered a training specifically aimed at smaller cities and secondary urban centres, where resources to tackle climate change are often limited and the need to respond through community-led mechanisms especially acute. The session outlined how to integrate both climate change science and traditional knowledge into urban planning processes. It also showcased a range of lessons and best practices gathered through UN-Habitat's Regional Office of Asia and the Pacific, the Pacific Island Urban Realities Network and RMIT.

IMPLEMENTATION: The training gave participants a better understanding of how to combine the latest science on climate change with established strategies of adaptation and mitigation within communities to create locally appropriate, participatory urban planning frameworks that address the challenging social and environmental realities of urban climate change.

TRAINING EVENT 4: Scaling up inclusive and affordable housing in the New Urban Agenda: Land use regulation challenges for socially inclusive and sustainable cities

OVERVIEW: This training provided an overview of the complexities of land use and the effects of poor management on access to affordable housing. In addition, it introduced a range of useful tools and methodologies to respond effectively to land use challenges. **Lead:** UN-Habitat. **Partners:** Lincoln Institute of Land Policy.





SUMMARY: Poor land use management is still an acute problem in many cities worldwide, underpinning a host of other issues from lack of access to services and physical segregation to sprawl and economic decline. Despite this, understanding of its complexities and potential solutions to uncoordinated land use remains limited. With much of today's urban growth taking place in the context of weak or non-existent regulation, many cities are succumbing to increasingly dysfunctional patterns of growth that lead to isolated neighbourhoods with little or no access to essential services.

This training, led by Professor Cynthia Goytia (Lincoln Institute of Land Policy), provided policy makers, NGO representatives and researchers with the knowledge to recognise land use problems and the skills to respond to them effectively through well designed, effectively implemented planning frameworks. Enhancing the governance of urban land will by extension bring an array of additional benefits to cities, paving the way for a more equitable and sustainable future.

IMPLEMENTATION: Improving land use in cities and their surrounding regions is an essential element in realising the vision of the NUA. Well planned development, coordinated infrastructure investment and appropriate environmental protections will all help to encourage better urbanisation outcomes in the decades to come.

TRAINING EVENT 5: Global toolkit for safe, inclusive and accessible public spaces for all

OVERVIEW: This training exchanged learning on how to promote more democratic public space. **Lead:** UN-Habitat. **Partners:** Barcelona; Italy's National Institute of Urbanism; Rome / United Cities and Local Governments.


SUMMARY: UN-Habitat's *Global Public Space Toolkit: From Global Principles to Local Policies and Practices*, developed following the 2012 Biennial of Public Space and published in 2015 after an extensive consultation with international experts, provides a comprehensive overview of the far reaching benefits of public space and the application of good urban design to support health, transport, security, participation and a host of other issues. Similarly, the *UCLG Public Policy Framework: By and For Local Governments* makes the case for cities to embrace local and decentralised planning models to encourage the development of inclusive, safe and accessible public spaces.

Both publications informed this session, led by Jose Chong (UN-Habitat) and Regina Orvananos (UN-Habitat), training participants in how to assess, develop and monitor well designed neighbourhoods. Through good practices, guidelines and discussion, it helped improve understanding of the social and environmental dimensions of public space and the very considerable gains that locally designed spatial strategies can bring cities as a whole. The session also included guidance on how to gauge progress of SDG 11.7 - stipulating "universal access to safe, inclusive and accessible, green and public spaces, particularly for women and children, older persons and persons with disabilities" – and UN-Habitat's methodology to evaluate city-wide public space provision.

IMPLEMENTATION: The training provided participants with improved knowledge and capacity in the design and development of inclusive and accessible public space, a key provision of the NUA, as well as the necessary tools to measure progress using objective indicators.

TRAINING EVENT 6: How to use simple mobile mapping tools in quality of life and community well-being assessment





OVERVIEW: This training event provided participants with an introduction to quality of life assessments and first-hand experience of its application using mobile mapping software. **Lead:** Faculty of Geo-Information Science and Earth Observation University of Twente Netherlands. **Partners:** UN-Habitat.

SUMMARY: Geomapping software offers significant potential for data collection and analysis on a wide range of factors determining quality of life and wellbeing. Through a variety of social, economic and environmental indicators, a detailed profile of a particular community can emerge. At the University of Twente's Faculty of Geo-Information Science and Earth Observation, research in areas such as participatory mapping with GIS, volunteered geographic information and citizen science have produced a considerable knowledge base that can be used to assess urban environments.

This training, led by Dr Jeroen Verplanke (University of Twente), provided participants with an overview of quality of life and community assessment techniques, followed by a tutorial in the use of mobile mapping software. They were then given the opportunity to trial their skills in fieldwork outside the conference on nearby Ruta de Experiencia, where participants undertook a mapping exercise to monitor local conditions before returning to the conference room for a concluding discussion.

IMPLEMENTATION: Providing urban practitioners with the skills and tools to assess quality of life and community wellbeing supports the development of more equitable development that actively targets marginal or excluded neighbourhoods.

TRAINING EVENT 7: Leaving no-one behind: How to design, finance and regulate adequate human settlements and housing for low-income majorities

OVERVIEW: This training session outlined a range of ways that urban policy makers can promote equitable and affordable housing provision. **Lead:** Rapid Urbanism. **Partners:** MA; Special Interest Group in Urban Settlement (SIGUS), Massachusetts Institute of Technology (MIT) In Cambridge.


SUMMARY: Because of the complexities of housing provision and access, cities require integrated legal, financial and planning frameworks to ensure their poorer populations are still able to enjoy adequate living conditions. With this in mind, Dr Reinhard Goethert (MIT) and Matt Nohn (Rapid Urbanism) presented a range of different strategies that can be adapted by cities to facilitate the construction of affordable homes and encourage the development of mixed-use neighbourhoods that are well connected to amenities and employment.


Among other measures, they discussed various concrete actions that could improve access to housing, including the release of undeveloped land for affordable homes, taxing land value to promote efficient use and densification through settlement upgrading. By employing a rights-based approach to housing provision and deploying a variety of different mechanisms, the session showed how cities could help promote better housing access for their low-income residents.

IMPLEMENTATION: Equipping policy makers with a rights-based approach to housing finance and regulations will play an important role in furthering the NUA's commitment to inclusive housing for all.

TRAINING EVENT 8: Eastern European Urban Transformation

OVERVIEW: This training session provided a platform for policy makers to engage and share ideas on ways for cities in Eastern Europe to become more sustainable. **Lead:** Federal Ministry for the Environment, Nature Conservation, Building and Nuclear Safety, Germany. **Partners:** Deutsche Gesellschaft Für Internationale Zusammenarbeit (GIZ).





SUMMARY: The recent history of Eastern European cities since the late 1980s illustrates the variety of trajectories that urbanisation can follow and the very rapid process of change this has brought to the region. Yet across Eastern Europe there is a shared need to develop holistic and adaptive urban solutions to a host of challenges, such as climate change and forced migration, and lay the foundation for the realisation of a sustainable urban future in line with the NUA and the Leipzig Charter on Sustainable European Cities.

This training, led by Werner Spec (Lord Mayor, City of Ludwigsburg), Gunter Adler (State Secretary, Federal Ministry for the Environment, Nature Conservation, Building and Nuclear Safety), Vitali Klitschko (Mayor, City of Kiev) and Bernhard Muller (GIZ), provided a platform for policy makers from different countries to interact and share ideas on how to achieve greater cooperation between urban development practitioners and policy makers.

IMPLEMENTATION: This training provided participants with a range of best practices, lessons learned and other valuable knowledge to guide them in the development of more sustainable urban policies.

THURSDAY, 20 OCTOBER

TRAINING EVENT 9: The transformative power of communities – Inclusive and integrated citywide slum upgrading

OVERVIEW: This event provided participants with an immersive training in the principles and tools of participatory slum upgrading. **Lead:** UN-Habitat. **Partners:** Cape Town; Slum Dwellers International (SDI); South Africa.

SUMMARY: UN-Habitat's Participatory Slum Upgrading Programme and the activities of SDI both reflect the increasing recognition of the effectiveness of community-based approaches to settlement upgrading. These initiatives illustrate that engaging urban residents themselves in the projects that will directly affect them leads to more efficient resource use, more appropriate planning and more equitable social outcomes.


This event, led by leading representatives of SDI and UN-Habitat, drew on the expertise and experiences of both organisations to provide participants with a rich theoretical and practical training in some of the key aspects of participatory upgrading, illustrated by case studies and lessons learned. Comprising four main topics, it included an overview of upgrading strategies, instruction in participatory data collection techniques, a grounding in participatory planning tools and a presentation of viable financial models to fund upgrading programmes.


IMPLEMENTATION: The training provided a thorough introduction to the key principles and practices of participatory upgrading, laying the groundwork for the development of socially just and collaborative urban development programmes in neglected areas such as slums.

TRAINING EVENT 10: Delivering the New Urban Agenda through sustainable urban mobility solutions

OVERVIEW: This training focused on improving mobility in cities, particularly through electric mobility options and Transit Oriented Development (TOD). **Lead:** UN-Habitat and United Nations Centre for Regional Development. **Partners:** Wuppertal Institute

SUMMARY: Ensuring accessible, low carbon transportation is one of the key commitments in the NUA. This, however, requires a substantive transformation of the mobility is presently managed in many cities, from





the energy it uses to spatial planning. Clean energy and compact urban design together make for cities that are not only easier to navigate but also healthier, less congested and more sustainable.

This training, drawing on the extensive expertise of its international presenters, began with a detailed section on ways to design urban mobility strategies, with a particular focus on electric options. It then instructed participants in the principles of TOD, its benefits and some examples of best practices. Finally, the session was opened for an interactive discussion on the various aspects of sustainable urban mobility.

IMPLEMENTATION: This training provided a range of key stakeholders with a firmer understanding of efficient and low carbon transport options, increasing opportunities for the promotion of more sustainable urban mobility in cities.

TRAINING EVENT 11: Urban planning for city leaders

OVERVIEW: This training provided instruction to city leaders on the technical dimensions of urban planning.

Lead: UN-Habitat. **Partners:** CityNet.

SUMMARY: UN-Habitat's *Urban Planning for City Leaders* attempts to bridge technical and policy knowledge by providing mayors, local officials and other decision makers with a clear and accessible overview of the specialist aspects of urban planning. Covering everything from spatial design and traffic management to public safety and investment, it provides a comprehensive presentation of the key challenges that city leaders are likely to face and the ways that effective planning can help address them.

This training, building on this important resource, instructed participants in the value of planning tools and gave a variety of practical insights on how to leverage finance and expertise from businesses, planners and communities effectively. As a result, participants had a deeper appreciation of how planning systems operated and the benefits that they could bring to the smooth operation of a city.


IMPLEMENTATION: The capacity development and knowledge from this session will help ensure that participants have a sufficient skill base to adapt the findings of the training to their own work.


TRAINING EVENT 12: Provision of shelters in post-disaster context

OVERVIEW: This training event provided participants with a detailed overview of post-disaster shelter provision and an understanding of the potential housing, land and property rights issues that can arise in disaster-affected urban areas. **Lead:** InterAction & IFRC. **Partners:** Autonomous City of Buenos Aires; Catholic Relief Services; Ecuador Red Cross; Global Communities; Habitat for Humanity International; Public Ministry of Defence.

SUMMARY: With an increasing proportion of humanitarian crises and natural disasters affecting towns and cities, relief and recovery programmes have had to respond to the specifically urban dimensions of these emergencies and adapt their work accordingly. As vulnerability to climate change and other hazards increases, local authorities must also now consider how to incorporate disaster-responsive policies into their strategies to ensure communities are adequately protected from these growing risks.

This session, combining expertise from a variety of organisations, began with an introduction on the history and current state of humanitarian relief, recovery and reconstruction. This section, developed by USAID, was tailored specifically for Habitat III and included consideration of the specific urban considerations of humanitarian crises. The subsequent section, focusing on land, property and housing – issues particularly relevant in the context of cities – examined the regulatory barriers that can impede emergency assistance





provision. Covering areas such as security of tenure, building codes and land use planning, it provided participants with a better understanding of how these factors can be taken into account when designing a response.

IMPLEMENTATION: This training, by improving knowledge on the complexities of humanitarian emergencies and their urban dimensions, enhances the capacity of humanitarian responders to tailor their programmes accordingly to strengthen their effectiveness. However, it is also relevant to urban developers and decision makers who must increasingly mainstream disaster sensitive policies into their everyday work – a necessity highlighted repeatedly within the NUA.

TRAINING EVENT 13: Cities for all: Urban planning, law and constitutional defence

OVERVIEW: This training event provided a workshop for participants to understand and apply international law and human rights standards to urban policy and development. **Lead:** Colegio Nacional de Jurisprudencia Urbanística Argentina. **Partners:** Public Ministry of Defense; Autonomous City of Buenos Aires, Argentina.

SUMMARY: Human rights and international law provide an invaluable framework for urban governance, planning and development. The complex challenges of cities, whether social, economic or environmental, are generally underpinned by basic rights – and most of the most egregious symptoms of urbanisation, from forced evictions to gender-based violence, occur when those rights are disrespected. Consequently, ensuring all urban stakeholders operate in a recognised rights-based framework is an effective way of achieving better urbanisation outcomes.

This training, involving a broad range of experts and drawing on various UN legal frameworks, offered an extensive workshop on how to apply human rights approaches to urban contexts and use these tools in advocacy. In addition, it provided examples of best practices from selected cities and gave participants a detailed overview of gender rights, urban legislation and specific court cases involving relating to housing, participation and public space.


IMPLEMENTATION: The training provided participants with a strong foundation in how to apply legal and human rights standards to urbanisation issues, providing them with a clear theoretical and practical framework to implement different areas of the NUA.

TRAINING EVENT 14: Enabling institutional change through National Urban Policies

OVERVIEW: This training provided participants with an introduction to the approach of National Urban Policies and their use to achieve transformative institutional change. **Lead:** UN-Habitat. **Partners:** Institute for Housing and Urban Development Studies.

SUMMARY: UN-Habitat has supported many countries in their development of National Urban Policies, a process that can lead not only to the elaboration of a clearer policy framework for towns and cities, but also bring about a wider transformation of their institutional context. This could include, for example, the mainstream adoption of certain participatory or capacity development mechanisms that are recognised as best practice by international urban development practitioners.

This training, designed around a Theory of Change and Transfer of Learning model, provided participants with a thorough understand of the different processes of National Urban Policy design and how the key findings could then be applied elsewhere. Furthermore, it demonstrated how learning could be transferred effectively so participants had the tools to encourage wider change.





IMPLEMENTATION: This training session provides participants with the skills to translate knowledge and tools from their national urban policy frameworks to other institutional contexts, thus promoting a broader supportive environment.

