



United Nations

## HABITAT III POLICY DIALOGUES

### ***Urban Economic Development Strategies Policy<sup>1</sup>***

Wednesday, 19 October 2016

3 p.m. – 6 p.m.

Room 15-Teatro Demetrio Aguilera, Casa de la Cultura

#### ***Key Words***

*[Urban economies, urban economic development, economic growth, productivity, structural transformation, productive employment, decent work, job creation, policy and planning, institutions, innovation, competition, globalisation, urbanisation, liberalisation, the informal economy, green economy, low carbon economy, partnership, investment, infrastructure, human capital, social capital, New Urban Agenda]*

### ***Building Productive, Sustainable, and Inclusive Urban Economies<sup>2</sup>***

This Dialogue will address how to promote urban economic development at city level effectively and how to leverage urban economic development for social and environmental sustainability. The dialogue is action-oriented, and aims to promote the integrated and coordinated implementation of sustainable development, which is the focus of the New Urban Agenda. This Dialogue aims to encourage discussions among different stakeholders on urban economic development strategies and reflect on past and present experiences in developed and developing countries.

It is argued that the right kind of urban economic development strategies can directly contribute to the development of productive, sustainable, and inclusive urban economies, support social and environmental sustainability, and help meet the Sustainable Development Goals (in particular: Goals 1, 8, 9, 10, 11, 12 and 13).

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<sup>1</sup> In collaboration with the Habitat III Policy Paper on Urban Economic Development Strategies co-leaders: Bartlett Development Planning Unit, University College London (UCL) and Korean Research Institute for Human Settlements.

<sup>2</sup> See Habitat III Policy Paper on Urban Economic Development Strategies at the Habitat III website [www.habitat3.org](http://www.habitat3.org) [here](#)

## ***Guiding Questions***

- What are the key challenges facing cities in order to build productive, sustainable and inclusive economies and provide opportunities and prosperity for all?
- What are the key elements/characteristics of effective policy and strategy for achieving such outcomes in the framework of the implementation of the New Urban Agenda?
- How can different stakeholders help in this process and work with each other?
- What can we learn from past and present experiences in developed and developing countries?
- What changes are required in the structure of urban economies and the supporting institutions in order to make urban economies not only economically sustainable, but also supportive of social and environmental sustainability?
- How can we best leverage cities and human settlements as drivers for sustainable development?

